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THE
G O U T,
AN
E S S A Y.

E R R A T A.

Preface, page x, line 1, read *same medicine* ; p. xi, l. 2, for *th* r. *the* ; p. 18, l. 7, *publicly* r. *publickly* ; p. 26, l. 3, *medecine* r. *medicine* ; p. 39, l. 2, *emminent* r. *eminent*, l. 6, *escertain'd* r. *ascertained*, l. 13, *colledge* r. *college* ; p. 41, l. 7, *nighs* r. *nights* ; p. 42, l. 10, *entriely* r. *entirely* ; p. 48, l. 18, *inflamamation* r. *inflammation* ; p. 56, l. 18, *implias* r. *implies* ; p. 64, l. 14, after *effects* r. *of various disorders* ; p. 65, l. 1, r. *was rubbing* ; p. 73, l. 11. *in temperance* r. *intemperance* ; p. 81. see page 5 r. see page 3 ; p. 85, σιαγών r. σίαγον ; p. 90, l. 5, 13, *sate* r. *sat* ; p. 104, l. 3, *continual* r. *continually* ; p. 106, l. 1, *agreat* r. *a great* ; p. 114, l. 5, *publicly* r. *publickly*, l. 8, *nave* r. *have* ; p. 126, l. 2, *rubarb* r. *rhubark* ; p. 127, l. 16, *perriebation* r. *perturbation* ; p. 128 l. 16, after *dissoluble* r. *except in acid* ; p. 129, l. 23, *erruptions* r. *erruptions* ; p. 134, l. 18, ἐχία r. ἐχίν.

THE
G O U T.
EXTRAORDINARY CASES

IN THE
Head, Stomach, and Extremities;

With Physical and Chirurgical
REMARKS and OBSERVATIONS

On the various STAGES of the DISORDER—
The RHEUMATISM—the Disease commonly called
the SCURVY—the Nature and Formation of
External and Internal CHALK-STONES—

A N D
CONSIDERATIONS

Proving the GOUT the immediate Parent of
JAUNDICE, DROPSY, and STONE.

W I T H
An accurate Account of, and Difference between,
Obstructions in the Kidneys and Ureters, and
the Paroxysm in the Back and Loins, occa-
sioning the Loss of muscular Action in the
lower Limbs.

To which is prefixed

An E S S A Y,
Pointing out the progressive Symptoms and Effects,
and the Reasons why the GOUT was not here-
tofore *regularly* treated and cured.

By RICHARD INGRAM, Manmidwife,
Late Surgeon to the First or Royal Regiment of Dragoons,
and now on the Staff.

MD

L O N D O N:
Printed for PAUL VAILLANT, opposite
Southampton-street, in the Strand.
MDCCLXVII.

THE
C O U
EXTRAORDINARY CASES

Head, Stomach, and Intestines;
of the same species of the disease—
the disease is usually called
the scurvy—the nature and treatment of
External and Internal Chills—Stomach—

CONSIDERATIONS
Showing the Cause of the Epidemic Fever of
Jamaica, Barbadoes, and other
Islands.
A second Account of the Epidemic Fever,
Gonorrhoea, the Erysipelas, and other
the Epidemic in the West Indies, and
some account of the nature and treatment of the

which is printed
At the
Printed and Published by Wm. Woodfall & Sons,
and the Bookseller why the Fever was not better
known, and cured.

RICHARD INGRAM, M.D.
F.R.S. &c. &c.
and now on hand.

L O N D O N
Printed by T. W. VALENTINE, Printer,
and now on hand.



TO THE
OFFICERS

Of the FIRST, or ROYAL
REGIMENT of DRAGOONS.

GENTLEMEN,

THE repeated favors I
received when I had
the honor to be your surgeon,
and the friendship which sub-
sisted between us, will for ever
command my respect; as a
mark of it, I beg you to re-
ceive

DEDICATION.

ceive the following essay, and be assured I shall esteem that amongst my happiest days, which brought me acquainted with men, whose behaviour in the field reflected the highest lustre, and whose conduct in civil life, proved them gentlemen.

I felt with you, (for I will not doubt of your sentiments) real sorrow, when you lost your late excellent general,
and

DEDICATION.

and afterwards participated in the pleasure it must have given you, to see his majesty eminently distinguishing and making choice of that very man, to fill one of the highest departments in the state.

You have been eye witnesses of the military conduct of his successor, and you must be happy under the command of a nobleman, who wants no eulogium.

DEDICATION.

I affectionately wish you all,
health and honors worthy of
you; and heartily pray, that
your unanimity and friendship
for each other, may be as firm
as the love of your country,
and lasting as your loyalty and
courage.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your much obliged Friend,

And humble Servant,

RICHARD INGRAM.

~~Cold bath square,~~
August 1, 1767.

*Devonshire Street
Queen Square
Bloomsbury*

P R E F A C E.

TH E greatest part of the following essay was written about two years since, and then intended only as an introduction, to a dissertation on the rise, origin and nature of the Gout; in which I should have laid down certain rules, for the *regular* treatment of this painful disorder, in its various states and appearances; illustrating and confirming my me-

P R E F A C E.

thod of cure, by apposite cases.—But the ingratitude of those who received benefit, when I * gave my medicines away ; and † the villainy of others, who wanted to convert a generous action to their emolument, or to ‡ expose a concealed friend, to the censure of the envious or illiberal, made me drop the design, and convinced me that mankind in general, will not believe any one can act from social motives only ; therefore the making public my opinion of the cause, and knowledge of the cure, of this ex-

* See Advertisement, page 24.

† See Page 27.

‡ See page 28.

cruciating

P R E F A C E.

cruciating complaint, would procure but few thanks, whilst the pens of malevolent hypothetical reasoners, *condemning* facts, would be employed against me--or perhaps my rules would be neglected; for the world has but little opinion of that advice which is given gratis; and these rules, regimen and medicines, being easy, innocent and natural, might be deemed too simple to merit notice: yet this simplicity is (if I may use the expression) a rich simplicity, on which I value myself, and am more proud to be the follower of nature, than I should
to

P R E F A C E.

to be the greatest adminifter of the
Materia Medica.

When I had relinquifhed the defign of making known my opinion of the Gout, I was tempted to publifh the introduction, the intent of which, is only to obviate certain prejudices the world has imbibed, that this difeafe cannot be cured, and to add fome cafes, to fhew the weaknefs of fuch belief: how far I have fucceeded, the public muft now judge.

I have afferted * that without cramping invention, a method might

* See page 17.

P R E F A C E.

be found, to prevent the evils arising from the indiscriminate grant of medicinal patents, and flatter myself the following scheme, may in some measure answer the intent, or induce some one to strike out a method that will:

It is not to be supposed His Majesty or the privy council have time to make themselves competent judges of the several physical claims which are laid before them; it would therefore be the height of injustice in them, to deny their sanction to those, who
set

P R E F A C E.

set forth in as strong a manner as words can convey, the infinite pains they have been at, and the great benefit that will accrue to the public, by permission to vend their medicines, and representing the justice of allowing them the sole liberty of so doing, as a reward of their ingenuity and labour; nevertheless every person applying for a patent, should have a letter from the board to the College of physicians, (who are the best, and ought to be the only judges) requiring them, to give the proprietor of the medicine a fair opportunity
prove

P R E F A C E.

to prove the efficacy of it, in the public hospitals: first examining him on the knowledge of the disorder he proposes to cure, for unless he has some principle to go on, no advantage (but that of preventing the use of the arcanum) can be expected from giving the applier this trial. If, after a proper examination and trial of the medicine, *facts* corroborated the use of the preparation, he might be allowed a patent, or a reward for making it public. This would be a spur to serviceable industry.

Should

P R E F A C E.

Should a difficulty arise how the reward was to be paid ; the medicine might be prepared at Apothecary's-hall, and the inventor have an advantage on the quantity sold for a certain number of years, during which, no druggist, chymist or apothecary, should prepare the same ; and I am sure if it was a real good medicine the College would give it a place in their Pharmacopœia, and prescribe for it as a medicine the apothecary ought to keep by him ; for I would not have any arcanas, being well convinced, the sword has not destroyed so many lives

as

P R E F A C E.

as nostrums; more especially those vended under the royal letters. But if the physicians, who are a body of learned and ingenious men, were to point out in a proper manner, the great mischiefs occasioned by the too indiscriminate grant of medicinal patents, there would soon be a stop put to that species of poisoning mankind. This might be done without cramping invention; at the same time it would prevent the admiration of foreigners, at seeing in one street, *The Original, The True Original, and The Only True Original Warehouse* for the
same

P R E F A C E.

medicine; but their astonishment would be past expression, were they informed that these *Warehouse-keepers*, are totally ignorant of the physical art, and that ten to one of the patent nostrums are most villainous compositions.

I likewise wish to see the old laws put in force, or stricter new ones made, to prevent the surgeon's keeping a private shop, and vending of medicines—the apothecary should be debarred his pocket instruments, lancets, officiating in surgery, and having a laboratory.

P R E F A C E.

laboratory—the druggist should not make up any prescriptions, and the physician be confined to prescribing and leave midwifery to the surgeon, * whose business it most certainly is.

This would be of real service to the profession, and the public would reap the benefit; as then every professor being sure of acting (when occasion required) in their several departments, would be more attentive to the study of their particular occupations, than to gain a superficial knowledge of the various branches of the art. The

* Chirurgery, or Surgery, is derived from the word χειρουργία from χεῖρ *manus*, a hand, and ἔργον *opus* a work.

patients

P R E F A C E.

patients health by this means would be more secure, their recovery quicker, and of course the charge of sickness less expensive.

I am well aware some objections may be made to these schemes, but am by no means partial to my own sentiments, and only wish to see a method adopted, to save the lives of mankind from *empirical murderers*.

T H E

T H E
G O U T
A N
E S S A Y.

TH E Notion that the Gout cannot be cured, generally arises from an opinion, that was it possible, the discovery would have been before made ; and trifling as such an argument must appear, in the eye of every sensible man, yet (for want of reflection) I have known it made use of as an excuse for a person's tamely submitting his constitution to be
B destroyed,

destroyed, sooner than accept proffered assistance, when there was hardly a possibility to doubt of relief.

A moment's consideration would convince such people, that this idle supposition, has in it much impiety, and that instead of thanking the Almighty, for his beneficence and the blessings, we hourly experience, it is in fact, arraigning his omnipotence, for not having primevally made us omniscient. Nevertheless to so ridiculous an height has this prejudice been carried, that it is not uncusomary to wish the sufferer joy, on being attacked, from an erroneous belief, that the Gout is a drain for every other disorder; when it is the parent
of

of many of the most dreadful kind, as jaundice, dropfy, stone, &c.

Fraught with those sentiments, it is nowonder their imbibers obstinately refuse medicinal assistance, and give the physician but little encouragement to study a disease, which must endanger his reputation to attempt the cure of; for whoever dissents from public opinion, runs the risque of being deemed an empirick, who wants to enrich himself at the patient's expence.

The late learned Dr. Stukely, very judiciously observed the extreme difficulty, in persuading mankind to have a favourable opinion of any thing new, until adopted by fashion,

whilst pathetically he lamented, that caprice could establish or destroy the reputation of any medicine.

That gentleman, during the time,
“ He studied physic, read all the
“ authors he could meet with, and
“ wrote a large volume ; being an
“ entire history of the Gout, from
“ the beginning to our times ; yet
“ never could be persuaded to publish it, (although most strenuously
“ solicited) because the *Crown* work
“ was wanting, the *Cure*.” But
when he met with Dr. Rogers’s oils,
(believing them to be a specifick) he
freely communicated his sentiments.

Not

Notwithstanding that remedy was so strongly recommended, yet for the above reason, Dr. Rogers was treated
 “ as if he had been a public enemy
 “ to mankind ; whilst the Gout was
 “ suffered to rage as in Lucian fifteen hundred years ago.

“ Εγω δε ταυτοις πασιν οιμωζειν λεγω.

“ I command them all, still to roar on.

One reason for the disregard paid to these oils was ; that neither the inventor, nor his great advocate, knew the *Cause* of this painful distemper, for although the doctor defines the gouty matter to be “ *a fiery drop like*
 “ *liquid phosphorus, a caustic animal*
 “ *salt, dissolved in a rectified spirit of*
 B 3 “ *animal*

“ *animal juices,*” yet he leaves us as ignorant as ever as to the *formation* of this fiery drop ab origine.

Another reason was, that the oils were only a *topical* application, whereas the doctor acknowledges the disorder to be internal.

In the same manner, the inventors of powders, electuaries, drops, &c. have given the world occasion to decry their practice, because they have totally neglected to consider the *effects* of that *cause*, they have (hitherto in vain) endeavoured to remove. I am the more amazed at the remissness of these people, since had not the greatest obstinacy or self-conceit blinded their

their eyes to the merits of others, they must have perceived and been evidently convinced, there did not want facts, to corroborate the use and practice of the several medicaments, whether topicals or internals, which have from time to time been ushered into the world.

What success then might not we have promised ourselves, from the observations and practice of our forefathers, had they prudently made a distinction between the *cause* and the *effects*, and jointly permitted the surgeon to set nature down gently on the other side of the stile, the physician was endeavouring to help her over? Instead of this brotherly and candid

B 4 behaviour,

behaviour, through a mean and fordid apprehension of another's gaining part of their fame, they equally rejected each others assistance ; and whilst indolently they contented themselves, with giving the disease the title of dominus morborum, to their shame and the disrepute of the faculty, they allowed it to be the opprobrium medicorum.

Would not the physician at this time, be accounted highly blameable, who should forbid the approach of a surgeon, to cure the many dreadful *effects* of the small pox, scarlet fever, and other inflammatory disorders ? or would not the surgeon be justly condemned, who would wholly rely on
external

external applications, and not call in the aid of phyfic to affift him, in the cure of the many grievous tumours, the above diforders are the occafion of? for the ufe of medicine is not ideal, or a piece of formality as many idly imagine; but abfolutely neceffary, to prevent the many evils arifing from the putrid, and foul particles, abforbed into the circulation, for want of a fufficient difpumatation of the blood.

It is certain the cure of all diforders, depends chiefly on the knowledge of the *caufe*, and when that is eradicated, it is natural to believe, the *effects* will ceafe; yet that the *effects* of the *caufe*, may fometimes be fuch,
that

that nothing but a manual assistance can relieve nature, no one will venture to deny.

Thus whilst the gouty matter is forming, and nature is endeavouring to fling off that *somewhat*, which is obnoxious to the animal œconomy, it is the business of the physician to assist her; but when he finds his art incapable of carrying off the load she has been struggling with, and that it is only removed from the more noble parts to the inferior; where (though painfully, yet) kindly she points out a way to her relief; it then behoves him to call in the surgeon.* Nor

* The words Physician and Surgeon are here used in a figurative sense, and imply internal medicines and external applications.

should

should the latter be so vain, as to neglect desiring the physician to continue contributing his assistance; for unless he does, undoubtedly some latent particles of the virus, will be absorbed, and again produce similar effects.

As the Gout is allowed to be a crisis of nature, why may we not expect to cure it as well as a fever? which Dr. Sydenham observes, is no other, “ than an endeavour in nature to relieve herself from the “ morbidick matter;” yet should any one affirm, that a fever is not curable, innumerable facts would contradict him. Parreus speaking of the
Gout

Gout, calls it a thing * of an incomprehensible nature, no more known than the lues venerea; and whoever recollects it was one of the allegations against cardinal Wolsey, that he had dared to whisper in the king's ear, when infected with the lues; must know, that the venereal disease, was looked on, not only as contagious, but infectious; yet now we cure it easily, and in a very simple manner. If what was then dreaded as a plague, is no longer our wonder and terror, we have the greatest reason to believe, that the Gout will become subservient to our treatment, if we diligently apply ourselves; but loth to leave the well-trod path to strike out a new one, because of the

trouble

trouble of leveling the way, we contentedly jog on the same road, though round about.

One observation however in favour of the faculty, so feelingly strikes me, that I cannot help mentioning it; and this in some part may be a reason, why the *cure* of the gout is not oftner attempted. I mean the *indolence* yet great *impatience* of the person afflicted who seldom applies for relief, until the *inflammation* appears, and then expects immediate ease, which not receiving, he injuriously contemns the profession. Nay I have known an instance, when the patient has for several days (from the usual symptoms) been sensible, a severe fit was preparing to attack him,
that

that he totally rejected the advice of his doctor until the inflammation actually appeared; then, and *not before*, he desired to be assisted and on being next day in pain, was so cruel as to charge the gentleman who attended him, with bringing on the paroxysm.

One other reason may be given, why not only this, but many other disorders, are not wrote on, and treated in a regular manner : (viz.) the fear of incurring the censure of the profession; for it is certain, neither physician, surgeon, or apothecary, can support themselves against the united efforts of the other two.

The

The apothecary is too much interested, to disoblige either physician or surgeon : and although it is necessary for the surgeon, to have some knowledge of physick, (at least of the theory) yet if he opens his mouth, he is characterized by the name of a *prescribing* surgeon, and the physician by refusing to call him in, sets the example to the apothecary.

As to the physician, let him be a man of the greatest abilities, if he deviates from the old rules, he runs the risque of being opposed by his brethren—but if known to be the inventor or proprietor, of any peculiar medicine, he is called a *nostrum-monger*, and can never expect to be in a consultation—what can he do? he will find

find it immaterial the making public his arcanum — he has adopted a new theory and method of practice, and the offspring of envy and ignorance, is calumny, which always attends him.

Thus beset, he is too often obliged to have recourse to the royal protection, to enable him to gain a livelihood, from the profits of a medicine, he has perhaps spent hundreds of pounds, and the prime of his life, in bringing to perfection, and which but for these means, would be stole from him : or what is worse, a paltry sophistification might be imposed on the world ; yet the moment he obtains a patent, he is immediately ranked amongst

mongst empiricks—nay, the bare making known that he is possessed of an arcanum, is (as already said) sufficient to rob him of his reputation, and make the public forget the abilities of the man, on whose skill they before entrusted their lives. Hard fate! it is this fear of losing a good name, assiduously and hardly obtained, that prevents many useful remedies being published; but my opinion of arcanas and patent medicines in general, will be better seen in the preface to this essay, where I have endeavoured to point out a remedy, for the indiscriminate grant of medicinal patents, in a manner that I apprehend, will be far from cramping invention, and be a spur to serviceable industry.

C

It

It was the above fears that for a long time deterred me, from venturing into public; but recollecting three examples of * gentlemen, whose abilities in their professions are confessedly acknowledged equal to any—who are publicly known to be proprietors of secret † medicines, and believing
ing

* Dr. James, Messrs. Richard Guy, and Dale Ingram, surgeons.

† Dr. James's fever powder is too well known to need any eulogium; I have seen it administered to hundreds, and never saw, or heard of its failing of success, when judiciously given; yet in the hands of the ignorant, I have known it make strange depopulation——The mode of obliging the surgeons of the navy, to give an account of its success, is a very just one; and I wish the regulation took place in the army; it would corroborate the character of this excellent medicine, and prevent the indiscriminate use of the best preparation ever heard of. Mr. Richard Guy's *remedy* and manner of curing cancers, is incontestibly proved by remarkable facts—and the
Bosom,

ing the character I gained abroad was very well established, and relying on the gratitude of many living proofs, (of my attentive and careful practise) to defend my reputation, * from any illiberal attacks of the envious or ignorant; I no longer hesitate to declare I have a preparation that immediate-

Bosom, or oriental balsam, made public by Mr. Dale Ingram, is perhaps the best alexipharmic and cardiac medicine ever vended. — To avoid the appearance of peculiarity, it may be necessary to inform the reader, that I am scarcely known to the two first gentlemen, and have no concern, directly or indirectly in the last preparation. It is a regard for the public makes me point them out, and it is a poor tribute (though a due one) to the gentlemen's merit, to repeat that their judgments as physician or surgeons, are deservedly held in the highest esteem.

* It is the particular circumstance and tender concern for my reputation alone, that induces me to be so explicit; and must plead as an excuse for what otherwise would have the appearance of vanity.

ly strikes at the *cause* of the Gout; but even this must be varied in quantity and form, according to the age, constitution, and habit of body: nor will this always alone do, unless the concomitant complaints are carefully attended to.

By a proper method of treating the *effects*, at the same time the *cause* was corrected, I have had the pleasure to convince numbers of the absurdity in supposing this disorder incurable, or too malignant to yield to natural and easy remedies: an opinion as foolish and dangerous to imbibe, as it is destructive in its consequence to the lives of mankind; since it too often furnishes a cloak for the ignorant empirick, and an excuse for the sensible indolent.—

forry

sorry am I to say, I know men of this class who have abilities, would they exert them, might reflect honor on themselves and credit to their country: and it is evident by the great improvements made in physick and surgery, within the last twenty years; our knowledge of science in general, and the perfection to which we have brought *unnative* arts; that it is owing wholly to supineness, the English permit foreigners to boast *even* of *invention*. — a term that I hope will not be thought unapplicable to a *regular* method of treating and curing the Gout, in all its stages, and which has not once failed of success in a variety of cases in the head, stomach and extremities; but the word *discovery* will better suit the thorough knowledge of

a disorder, which for ages has and still continues, to make such terrible havock, amongst our greatest and wisest men. I candidly acknowledge I write to be known, and to recommend my method of curing a disorder, that hitherto has puzzled the most learned, and never before was treated in a regular manner; yet the chief motive which induces me to this publication, is the desire of contributing to the ease of the afflicted, and rendering myself serviceable to the community. That these were ever my sentiments, is evident from the method I have for years pursued.

When * abroad, during the campaigns it was my custom, always to

* In Germany.

give assistance, to such of the poor villagers as needed it ; and in winter quarters, I constantly and diligently visited the sick inhabitants, as can be testified by the officers of * the regiment of which I had the honor to be Surgeon, to whom I am beholden for the rank I bear, and who laid me under *indelible* obligations, at the close of the late war, in unanimously signing a memorial of my services; by which I was promoted to the staff — a commission I now enjoy.

I mention not these things to raise myself in the publick esteem, but to prove the truth of the foregoing declaration,

* The first, or royal regiment of Dragoons, then general Conway's.

ration,

ration, and that I look on lucrative motives as mean causes, which fully even the brightest actions ; nor have I derogated from this opinion in my conduct relative to the Gout. Having had frequent opportunities, of making myself a perfect master of this painful disorder, and commiserating the various ills, the afflicted indigent laboured under, I inserted an * advertisement,

* ADVERTISEMENT.

THE GOUT.

A gentleman of very extensive practice, has discovered a regular method of treating and curing the Gout in all its stages, which has not once failed of success in upwards of four hundred cases. Any persons by sending an account of their age, habit of body, how long they have been afflicted, at what times and in what manner the fit usually attacks them, may have a certain remedy gratis, and if the case requires it, will be personally attended. As the doctor is induced to this publication by the love he bears to

man-

ment, calculated for the benefit of such as were unable to pay for relief. Little did I imagine the rich would have applied — but I was mistaken; and it has often afforded me much pleasure, to sit in company with persons, who were declaring, they did not wish to be free * from this complaint, and seemed to laugh at those who went beyond flannel, when I have had letters in my pocket from them, acquainting me of their having for two

mankind, he does not chuse to advertise his name; for it is a known fact, that when any one of the faculty adopts a new theory or method of practice, envy or ignorance always terms it quackery.

Letters directed to Z. K. to be left at the bar of Grays-inn coffee-house, Fullwood's-rents, Holborn, will be attentively considered, and the next day answered.

* Endeavouring to inculcate the idle notion mentioned at the beginning, that the Gout is a drain for other disorders.

or

or three years regularly taken some celebrated noſtrum ; and have ſeen them ſwallow my medecine, under the ſpecious pretence of ſomething for a cold. The great demand for it, and the many extraordinary cures I daily perform'd, on perſons of character and reputation ; whilſt they proved the utility and efficacy of my treatment, robbed me of the pleaſing ſatiſfaction of aſſiſting the diſtreſſed, without ſome pecuniary return : for I ſoon found the expence attending my firſt plan, very conſiderable, and exceed my expectations. Added to this, I had other reaſons which obliged me to diſcontinue it.

As

As soon as my advertisement appeared, I received many letters. Amongst the writers were persons of the * Faculty, who forged cases to get my medicines into their hands ; but I should have remained ignorant of their intent, if they had not afterwards in confidence told me, and desired my assistance to aid them in the analysing, what they had artfully obtained, not suspecting me to be the Inventor. Some were fearful of taking what they had earnestly solicited for, before they had consulted their doctors. Others, desired to know the names of the persons I had cured, and begged me to appoint a day for visiting them ; at

* See Preface.

the same time I have been privately informed, they intended to have three or four of the profession present; and I once was diverted at being invited by a brother of the faculty, to a party of this sort, when we laid our heads together how we should treat this *supposed* empirick. Again, because I had promised my *personal* assistance to such whose cases I should *judge* required it, the readers of my advertisement mistook, and desired my attendance without describing their case: The last I shall mention, are those, who only acquainted me they had the Gout and desired me to send them *something*. To these it may be necessary to observe that the *intent* of all remedies is destroyed when they are injudiciously given,

given, or unaptly taken; and the indiscriminate use of medicines ruin the constitution. For however fair a preparation may promise to cure only one disorder, yet as the effects are various according to the several temperaments of mankind, the same dose shall have no effect, or very violent ones, on persons afflicted with the same disease; and if any one supposes that a medicine given in the same quantity, will cure the divers disorders to which different people are subject; he tacitly confesses, there is no difference of age, constitution or habit of Body — this reflection is sufficient to prove the inefficacy of the greatest part of the arcanas advertized, and to convince the world there cannot be a panacea.

I now proceed to say something of the *effects* of the Gout, and to explain what I mean by the word cure. The notion that the Gout is a drain for other disorders is (I repeat) erroneous to the highest degree: for what is commonly called the Gout is only the effect of the cause, and a kind endeavour in nature, to assemble together and fling off the load, with which she is furcharged, but when the swelling or inflammation appears, if external applications alone are used, her intent is perverted, and the disorder being repelled, is absorbed into the circulation ; the whole mass becomes impregnated, and in time brings on jaundice, cachecys, dropfy, stone, gravel, &c. for the ease the patient
for

for a time feels, after topical assistance, is owing, partly from the matter being more diffused, and partly from nature's inability (being too much weakened by her late efforts) to exert her powers for her relief.

Again, if internal remedies only are given; however the physician may flatter himself with effecting a cure, by correcting the cause, he will be most egregiously mistaken; for the intent of internals should be, to assist nature, and enable her without labour, to free herself; but if the stomach is loaded with medicine, it, and the whole viscera become debilitated and unable to perform their functions. Every one is sensible how
the

the extremities (more especially the inferior) suffer when this is the case; whilst the effect of the cause, viz. swelling and inflammation, being neglected, and left to subside or disperse of themselves, produce terrible complaints; for the parts being relaxed and too weak, without assistance to recover their tones, are incapable of their proper action and re-action; hence proceed swelled legs, and rheumatic pains; at the same time the matter not being carried off, lodges on the parts affected, and in time forms chalk stones, nodes, contraction of the joints, &c.

In this state of inaction, the poor sufferer, too frequently has recourse
to

to the bottle, as an exhilarator, in his melancholy moments—for men without action become melancholy, peevish, morose, and are only to be put in humour by stimulators, such as noisy companions, and the drowner of reflection, drink. Pleased he listens with a self-flattering hope, to the absurd nonsense of his companions, who not one in ten believe what they endeavour to inculcate—that every fit is a fresh indication of longevity; until nature overloaded, and unable to bear more, makes another effort; flings her load over the whole body, the component parts are not capable to assist each other in ejecting the burden, and the patient dies delirious and convulsed. By this we may see

D how

how necessary it is to observe what I before advanced. *

Although the symptoms in this disorder, are in fact *effects* ; yet I chuse to make a distinction, because the first, are continually varying and different in opposite constitutions ; the latter are fixed and similar in all. The indications or symptoms of the Gout previous to regular paroxysms, are in some ; pains between the shoulders, weakness in the loins, flushes of heat, cold sweats, little rest, disagreeable dreams, looking well in the face, but in continual uneasy sensations bordering on pain.

* Vide p. 10.

In

In others, night fevers, loss of appetite, depression of spirits, turbid urine, sudden head-achs, pains over the eyes.

In many; nausea, sour belchings, heart burn, nervous head-achs, bilious cholics, asthmas and waftings—likewise violent coughs often precede the fit.

Although women are (for obvious reasons) less liable to this disorder, than men ; yet after a certain period if they are attacked, it makes fatal havoc. To the other complaints are added, flushes, head-achs, violent pains in the face, oppressions of the stomach,

D 2

wind,

wind, gravel, and a train of ills, which require the utmost care in treating ; as the sex at that time of life, are not so capable as men, to assist nature by exercise.

The effects or result of these symptoms; are fevers, intense pain, thrilling shooting and burning like a hot coal, of a very peculiar sensation ; accompanied with inflammation, swelling, chalk stones, nodes, contraction of the tendons, enlarged joints, wasting of the limbs, total relaxation, stone, jaundice, dropfy, diliriums, convulsions, death.

These

These dreadful symptoms and their effects, may be easily prevented, if the patient applies in time ; but when that is not the case, or rather when his former applications have not been attended with sufficient success, to encourage his trying other remedies, and he is left in the melancholy situation before described ; yet ought he not to despair of a cure, provided the stamina is not wholly destroy'd.

For this I think may be termed a cure—relieving the head—dispelling the wind—carrying off gravelly complaints—easing the stomach and intestines of their various disorders—and at the same time restoring the appetite and

spirits—giving quick relief from pains—abating the inflammation—reducing the swellings—relaxing contracted tendons—giving freedom and use to contracted and enlarged joints—dissolving chalk stones—dispersing nodes—recovering the elasticity and springiness of the fibres—restoring the muscles to their pristine plumpness, tones and action—re-invigorating the whole animal frame—and enabling the component parts to perform their natural functions. All this may be effected by as regular (tho' simple) method of treatment, as ever was made use of, in the cure of a fever or any other disorder.

It

It was the prophetick opinion of the ablest writer, and most eminent * phyfician, England ever boasted : who himfelf fell a martyr to this terrible difeafe, that the *caufe* would be fuddenly afcertained and the cure performed by the moft *fmple* method. We live to fee a completion of his opinion : nor fhall I hesitate a moment (if properly called on,) to make known the caufe, and to defend my treatment of this painful diforder before the Royal Colledge of Phyficians.

The different fymptoms that appeared in the fubjoined cafes, and the effects of my treatment, are taken

* Dr. Sydenham,

D 4

from

from the minutes made at the time the incidents occurred; the liberty of printing their case for the good of society is what none have denied, and the greatest number of the patients would permit me to add their names and places of abode—but I never could reconcile to my idea of delicacy or humanity, the practice of exposing a fellow creature, as the sign of a vitiated constitution, or of human infirmity.

C A S E S.

C A S E S.

C A S E I.

Of the GOUT in the FEET.

TH E patient had four days, labour'd under a severe paroxysm, of the Gout in his feet. September 29th 1765. I visited him, and found the inflammation and other symptoms very violent; had not slept three nights, was costive, and without appetite. That evening after taking a medicine I gave him he slept four hours

successively—

ſucceſſively--perſpired profuſely--in the morning his body was open--at breakfaſt he eat ſome bread and butter with his tea---and towards evening the inflammation was abated. October the 1ſt he could put his feet to the ground, and was much mended--2d his appetite ſeemed perfectly reſtored, and was but in a little pain, which on the 3d, entirely left him, and on the 4th, he was able to draw on his Boots, and went a journey.

C A S E.

C A S E II.

Of the GOUT in the HANDS
and FEET.

ON the 24th of October 1765, this Gentleman was attacked with the Gout, in his hands and feet, accompanied with pleuretic pains, and other symptoms of a severe fit. That evening he put himself under my care; the 25th he was easier, broke much wind, had one stool, and made a quantity of water. 26th, the swelling on the parts was abated, had natural rest, the pleuretic pains entirely gone off, one hand quite well and was in a fine perspiration. 27th, could put on his shoes, and on the 31st I took my leave.

January

January the 21st. 1766, he by accident, received a severe blow on the right foot, which brought on a fit that lasted to the 29th, when I again took leave.

R E M A R K.

This gentleman, three years before his application to me, had been forced to quit a profession that required standing, and an exertion of his limbs: during this time, he had scarcely ever known a fortnight's respite from this excruciating disorder; which so enfeebled him, that he could hardly walk. but by continuing well* so long, he gained his strength, and in May was able to re-assume his avocations,

* Near fourteen weeks.

tions, and go into the country. The 18th, September following, he wrote me, that he had been two or threetimes attacked, but by taking a dose of a medicine I gave him, (when he left town) had carried off the fit almost immediately ; that he had not been confined one day, and at that time was better, than he had been for many years.

C A S E

C A S E III.

Of the GOUT in the KNEES
and FEET.

THIS gentleman had fifteen years been tormented with the Gout, in his knees and feet: the latter were seldom both at once attacked, but the pain would suddenly seize upon them alternately. When I was sent for, he had kept his bed a month, and the rage of the disorder was excessive. Prior to the attack, he was two days* comitous, and had a fit of the iliac passion, that lasted several hours—no appetite, knees, legs and feet, inflamed, tender,

* A propensity to sleep, not unlike what is meant by a lethargy, *νήμα* from *νή* pro *νέω*.

and

and fore to the touch—had the stranguary violently and was costive. The right foot contracted—his pulse were hard, full and irregular; his skin dry, and complained greatly of inordinate thirst. The attendants informed me, he had at intervals talked incoherently and appeared delirious; which was attributed, to his constant fever and great want of rest.

March 3d. I order'd him immediately to lose twelve ounces of blood; in a quarter of an hour he began to take his medicines; that evening he slept three hours, waked and made a quantity of water, after which he again slept for some time, and then had a plentiful

plentiful discharge the other way. In the morning I found him composed, his pulse better, the drought had left him, and there was moisture over the whole body; the 5th, he had two more stools, accompanied with a prodigious quantity of wind; made a pretty good breakfast, and although still in great pain, yet his spirits were better, and the pulse regular. As the cause seemed affected, I now ventured to assist nature in carrying off the effects, and proper applications were made, to his knees and feet—but the medicines were continued, to prevent any gouty matter being absorbed, or repelled, to the more noble parts. 6th, the inflammation was abated and the swelling on the
the

the knees subsided—every passage was open and he sat up. The 7th, his appetite returned—his chief complaint now, was weakness, and he was free from pain except at the bottom of the right foot--On inspection I perceived a swelling, hard, but not much discoloured, near the size of a walnut: two days after I persuaded the patient to let me dilate the whole length of the tumour—the sensation was not like the formation of matter in a common abscess, throbbing; but a fixed inactive burning pain, which became excessive on severe pressure; yet the integuments were hardly sensible to the incision. The matter discharged, was turbid; and in consistence, something

E

like

like that called by surgeons * *steatoma*, which on drying was in almost every respect like the gouty chalk stones--the wound was washed with warm milk, and an emollient poultis was applied; in forty hours there was no occasion for more than a bit of lint and defenitive plaister, as a dressing. The patient daily mended and recovered his strength; on the 16th, he returned me thanks, and had no further need for medicines, but went abroad as usual.

R E M A R K.

I have found great difficulty in persuading patients, to submit to lose blood; but in many cases it is absolutely necessary, and will be of service when every *common* method fails; as

I

* Like Suet.

I remember was the case of a baronet who last year sent for me—he had been several months laid up, and had employed three eminent physicians, who exerted their utmost endeavours for his relief, but in vain. By accident a day elapsed before I received his message: in the mean time some one proposed bleeding, which had such an effect, that it was only necessary to order good nursing, and he was soon able to leave town--yet I confess a lancet in the hands of the ignorant is dangerous, and it requires sound judgment to know, when to bleed, or blister, in the Gout.

In this case I have been particular, relative to giving internals and applying externals. But let it be remembered, that for the reasons mentioned, I never make use of topicals without giving internals, lest they should prove repellants ; the fatal effects of which treatment must be evident to every one. This is the only instance I ever met with, where the flinging off the chalky matter, occasioned violent pain, the bursting of the cyst being in general insensibly performed. Probably the pain in the formation of these abscesses, is not particularly felt, on account of the agony the whole part is in, that abating, the swelling of the limb subsides, and the
parts

parts recovering their natural tones and sizes, they more plainly appear: the hard secretions gradually lacerating the internal coats and fibres of the integuments, these for want of their usual action, and their capillary circulation being destroyed, become insensible to the touch; and the anguish occasioned by pressure, is owing to the contents of the abscess being depressed on the nervous membrane, which is left undefended.

C A S E IV.

Of the GOUT in the KNEES and
other JOINTS.

F E W men ever suffered more from the effects of the Gout than this person. His condition when I first saw him alarmed me, and I had but little hopes of rendering him that service, my endeavours were blest with—he had been upwards of fifteen years subject to violent paroxysms of the Gout, which generally assailed him about the beginning of the summer, and had for two years wholly deprived him of the use of his limbs; during this
period

period he remained in a miserable state of inactivity and could only be moved from the bed to the fire side and from thence back again. To add to his misery, in December 1765, he was again attacked with a severe fit which raged till May, the 7th, 1766, when I was desired by a neighbour to visit him.

The fit he then laboured under, had chiefly fix'd in his wrists and hands—the left hand was the most affected--had no appetite--pleuretic pains—bilious sickness—no use of his feet and insteps—his legs were swell'd nor could by any means be straitened—his knees were swelled, contracted, and

each had all the appearance of a perfect * ancylofis. To relieve them, issues were on the parts made by caustics which he had patiently suffer'd upwards of a twelvemonth; but they were only troublesome and fore. That † evening he put himself under my direction, altho' nature strongly pointed out how much she externally wanted assistance, yet I ventured not to make any applications, until I should be certain the cause was corrected. I had that satisfaction on the second day--when his appetite returned, the pains in his sides left him—the

* Ancylofis ancyle from 'Αγκύλλω crooked, a distortion, fixation, καλοχῆ of the joints. This properly implies when the joint is fixed in a bended position for when strait it is call'd orthocolon, ὀρθόκωλον.

† May 7th.

left hand was free from pain—the fwel-
lings in both were fubfided—and even
the knees feemed not fo ftiff. May
10, knees much better—11th could
ftand up—his infteps were free from
pain and the joints had a pretty free
motion—12th walked into the fhop.
—13th the fwelling on the knees was
fubfided, and on the 15th to his
great joy, and the furprize of the
neighbourhood, he was feen walking
in the ftreets, and went amongst his
old acquaintance : he had by fitting fo
long, contracted a habit of ftooping,
which was mending when I left him.
This cafe made a great noife, and
many of my acquaintance went with
me to fee him. My reafon for defir-
ing

ing leave to introduce people to him was, to convince them the Gout in the most obstinate cases could be cured. The liberty of conducting to my patients such persons as may be afflicted, (yet want examples to strengthen their resolution of endeavouring to obtain relief) is what I seldom fail to solicit and am hardly ever denied, as I make not an improper use of it; never introducing persons of inferior rank or ever gratifying impertinent curiosity.

C A S E

C A S E V.

Of the GOUT in the SHOULDER and
other Joints, with Chalk-stones
on the LEGS and THIGHS.

MA N Y years had this person been afflicted with the Gout, which generally attacked him in April or May, (sometimes in November) and continued violent, from three to six months. These fits had so incapacitated him, that he had not walked a mile for fifteen years. When I went to him, he had been confined to his bed eight weeks, and was then under the care of a foreigner, who had anointed him three weeks, without

out success. The shoulder was inflamed, and the deltoid muscle was swelled greatly—his chief agony was about this part. The wrists, hands, knees and feet were inflamed, and though not contracted, yet all the joints were stiff, and the tendons on the back of the hand, appeared enlarged and hard, as if they were ossified. On his legs and thighs were many chalk-stones, some of them very large; had no appetite, bad rest, and was unable to stir.

On Wednesday the 23d of April, I ordered the parts to be well cleansed * and fomented—that night he rested well and perspired—24th was easier

* See case III. page 52.

—could

—could move his limbs in bed.—
 25th his appetite returned—shoulder
 better—right hand quite well—26th
 the chalk-stones began to dissolve and
 separate--late up an hour and an half--
 27th shoulder free from pain—was
 up all the afternoon—and on Sunday,
 the 28th, he got up at eight in the
 morning, eat a hearty breakfast, could
 sit with his knees alternately across
 each other—after dinner was able to
 walk to the door, and went near
 three miles over the stones in an
 hackney coach—I took my leave on
 the Tuesday following.

N O T E.

I could not examine the parts af-
 fected, until after they were cleansed
 from

from the unguent; which appeared to me, to be the mel-saponis of the old Pharmacopœia, with the addition of verdigrease and some meal, I apprehend rye, as I have seen this application frequently used in Germany, and the effects were similar; viz. burning, pricking, shooting, and irritating like an epispastic for some time, after which the parts become numbed and senseless. I have conversed with many who have used this preparation, and have always observed, that the fits returned oftener, and with greater force after it, and that at length it brought on exostoses. Even the servant who washed the wrappers and rollers would be affected, as was the case of the attendant on this patient.

I had other reasons to believe it to be the same medicament, but do not think myself at liberty to make them known, as it would point out in too strong a light the person. Nor are those who apply external remedies (though they may prove fatal) so blameable as they who without regular study, venture to give internal medicines. The first, believing the disorder to be local, (for which belief they have some shew of reason from evident appearances) are partly right; more especially as they do not think they are tampering with the constitution; and not conceiving the doctrine of circulation, have no apprehension of the evil arising from matter repelled or absorbed. The latter, who im-

piously

piously jest with the lives of their fellow creatures, (and provided they get money, cram their infamous nostrums down the throats of the credulous, and without knowledge or attention to the complaint, indiscriminately give the same medicine,) deserve exemplary punishment. Yet these mischiefs might be partly avoided, many good remedies brought to light for correcting the cause, and many medicaments to cure the effects, by following the plan mentioned in the preface.

Although I did not begin with this patient till the 23d yet I saw him on Tuesday the 22d. He was then under the hands of the foreigner, who
was

rubbing him. I had then a very good opportunity to examine the smell, colour, &c. of the preparation, which with the reasons above hinted at, confirmed my opinion, as to its quality. The proprietor candidly acknowledged, she did not pretend to know the cause of the Gout; and as her livelyhood depended on the unguent, it would have been absurd, to attempt the persuading her to lay it aside, I therefore contented myself, with cautioning her against too violent a use of it; advised purges with it, and endeavoured to give her an idea of its fatal effects, and how it might produce them. She had too much sense not to feel the force of my arguments, too

F

great

great an opinion of the ointment to throw it by, and too great poverty to have pursued any such inclination. As she seemed sensible and grateful, I even assisted her by pointing out such remedies as might render the use of her ointment safer; but she was more struck by example than precept, when calling on the fifth day after, she learned the patient was abroad.

C A S E VI.

Of the GOUT in the JAW.

THIS Lady had an attack of the Gout in her face, which gradually increased during the space of two months, until it became so violent as to confine her to the bed, and obliged her on the 18th of April last to have advice. At first it was made slight of as a cold, then thought to be a fever, next the rheumatism, and lastly the ague. According to these various opinions she was cupped and bled, sweated, blistered, purged, fomented, embrocated, and swallowed a variety of medicines,

which ended with the bark—but to no purpose — for although every change procured some little relief, yet it was but of short duration ; the cause still remaining uncorrected, the effects returned with redoubled violence, and after three weeks she remained in as bad a state as at first, or indeed rather worse, being weakened for want of rest ; the stomach pall'd with medicines disrelished its food, her spirits naturally chearful were depressed by fatigue, nor were they at all elevated by the informations she received, of persons labouring under the same complaints, from six months to two years ; tho' before her friends she bore the pain with great fortitude, yet an observant

servant eye might easily perceive her excessive agony. The pulse were low and tremulous—skin dry and parched—naturally of a costive habit. The pain had for some time fix'd on the left jaw, and extended around her mouth and all over that side of her face, where she complain'd of a gnawing, burning pain, throbbing and shooting; whilst the acute agony seemed fixed in the bone, and would suddenly (as she expressed herself) fly to the top of her head, or dart on the brain—heat was now become intolerable, and the fomentation could no longer be borne. Friday May the 7th to the *surprise* of her friends, I declared the disorder to be

the Gout, and began to treat her accordingly.

Saturday morning four o'Clock—in great agony, but by taking her medicine found quick relief and slept till near eight, when she *was* awakened. All Saturday much better tho' not free from pain. Towards evening easier and had a very good night.

Sunday morning, in great spirits and quite easy—the whole day free from pain. A good nights rest. Monday quite well, and able to entertain her friends with usual chearfulness. On the Friday, she complained of a fore-
ness in her gums, which did not prevent
her

her going abroad, and the air seemed perfectly to restore her

R E M A R K.

The great agony this Lady was in, and the torments she endured, tempted me many times to declare my sentiments ; but I was restrained by the certainty of not being attended to, or losing the favour of a family I esteemed: for had she at first been treated for the Gout (tho' with success) yet it would have been thought a simple complaint, and that I endeavoured to impose on the family, by giving the name of a formidable disease, to what they looked on as trifling ; and it would have been impossible after, to convince them

of their error: for not understanding physick, they would have quoted instances, of persons with complaints nearly alike in their effects, (tho' widely different in their causes) who were cured by the means she made use of, from the 18th of April, to May the 7th. It was therefore necessary, however repugnant to my humanity, to let the patient pursue such methods, as she was informed had met with success. That my conduct was justifiable the event demonstrated; for when the lady had found the benefit of relying wholly on me, the husband could not believe the disorder to be the Gout; and it was easy by an accidental expression to discover his sentiments

ments, which nothing but his friendship for me, made him conceal. Nor do I blame him, since he only joined the cry of common opinion.

In the case, I have marked the word *surprize* to express the astonishment and doubts of her friends, who wondered how a Lady naturally healthy, chearful, active and temperate, could be troubled with a disorder, they imagined to be the result of intemperance—but that is by no means a fact. The Gout is a disorder inherent with our nature, and although temperance will abate, and in time correct, the effects of the cause, in those who have lived high: yet I know instances of the
most

most abstemious being troubled with it to a great degree; whilst many debauchees might be found who never felt a twinge. The *effects* of the Gout in two such people, must naturally be treated in a very different manner, whilst the cause in both are alike corrected—for the Gout varies from most disorders—the cause is the same in all, but the symptoms, appearances and attacks are in more various shapes than every other distemper put together. The contrary may be observed in the rheumatism where the effects are similar, tho' the cause is different. In one, the blood is dissolved and the circulation too languid, to be carried on, more especially thro' the capillary (or hair like) vessels, by which
means

means the muscles &c. lose their tones and are incapable of their proper action. Hence proceed pains, which are alike in another, whose vessels being too replete, have not the power of contraction necessary to propel the blood, which is fizy, and the globules too large, to enter the more minute tubes.

Here we may see the necessity of making nature, unerring nature, our guide. The first must be supported with restoratives, cardiacs, and every medicine that warms, re-invigorates and gives an additional balsam to the blood—the latter, must be lowered, purged, have such medicines as attenuate

nuate and break the globules, whilst the vessels must be emptied by venesection, which increasing the momentum or force of the blood, enables it to propel any obstruction in the minutiae of the circulation.

OBSERVATION.

It is observable in paroxysms of this kind, that after the crisis of the fit, if there are any bad teeth, they are sure to be affected. Strobelbergerus insisted on it, that the pain in the teeth coming after fits of the Gout, was the disorder itself flung on that part, and distinguished it by the word * odontalgia. But this is not true: for the

* Odontalgia from ὀδὸν, a tooth and ἄλγος pain.

pain is widely different, and the patient when afflicted with both, can make the distinction. I have seen several cases, and this seems to be its course in general.

On the 7th or 8th day after the patient has been free, from the disagreeable gnawing pain &c. there comes on an inflammation and foreness around the mouth and gums; this (if there are no bad teeth) in a few hours goes off with a gentle saliva, somewhat similar it is with the Gout in the extremities, where nature endeavouring to fling off the load, the patient finds himself easier after the inflammation and swelling, which disappear by insensible perspiration: to
promote

promote which, all gouty persons make use of flannels or oilskins, which tho' they do not affect the *cause*, yet assist nature in carrying off the *effects*—but to return—if the patient has any bad teeth, the parts being distended and irritated by the inflammation; the nerves by consent of parts are affected, or the air getting into the mouth (which is not so well closed thro' pain, or oftener opened to gargle, &c.) presses on the nerve, and occasions that sensation called the tooth-ach, this pain depriving the sufferer of rest, brings on a fever; the functions of nature not being duly performed, as the parts lately affected are consequently less able to resist, they again undergo their former agony.

agony. But here the Gouty pain seems to be only the effect of the other cause, for on drawing the teeth it goes off as before described; and that this is properly speaking an effect, is more plainly evinced by not being attended with the concomitant symptoms. No case perhaps can better prove the absurdity in supposing the Gout always attacks in the joints—its situation entirely confutes the opinion of those who imagined the disorder was in the sinovia.* Yet this opinion having principally for its founder

* It may likewise be remarked that the teeth not having any articulation do not properly come under the denomination of arthritic. Arthritica or arthritis, from ἀρθριτική, ἀρθρίτις from ἄρθρον a joint.

so great a man as Sydenham, the world has implicitly followed him. What pamphlet is there published that is not adorned with the borrowed account from that excellent writer? I say borrowed, because it is evident they have taken it from each other, the quotation being always the same—This quotation has two meanings: first it *seems* to show their study and learning, secondly it informs the credulous, they have found out somewhat to correct this sinovia; but the fallacy is easily detected—for had they read his works, they might have remarked his candid acknowledgements, that he did not understand the cause of a disorder, whose effects and progressions only he

he described. The tamely following the hypotheses of eminent men, (with whatever reason they in the more unenlightened æra of phyfic might make them) without examining them thoroughly, and taking their argumentative suppositions, as positive assertions, has been of great detriment to our improvements in phyfic, and corroborates a former remark. *

Dr. Stukely endeavoured to refine on this hypothesis; and tells us, *the oil which lubricates the joints, is a rectified spirit of animal juices, and that the Gout is a fiery drop, like liquid phosphorus, which dissolving in*

* See Page 5.

the oil, poisons it.—Without making remarks on the opinion of a man, who other ways was learned and an ornament to his country, I shall observe, that this was asserting the Gout is always situate in the joints. But how then will the supporters of this doctrine, account for the formation of chalk stones on the deltoid and biceps of the arm, the rectus sartorius, vastus externus & internus of the thigh, and gastronemii muscles of the leg? or will they deny the existence of the Gout in the head, stomach, &c. It appears so much like digression or tautology, that I am sorry to be obliged to repeat any thing I have before advanced, but to confute

fute

fute an opinion, which has occasioned more mischief than any other, or at least prevented more from seeking relief, I find it absolutely necessary. *

“ What is commonly called the
“ Gout, is only the *effects* of a *cause*,
“ and a kind endeavour in nature, to
“ assemble together, and fling off the
“ obnoxious particles;” that is, the
swelling and inflammation in the feet
and on the joints, are only indications
of the strength of nature, to relieve
herself from the surcharge, and not
the disorder itself; which, though it
produces such terrible effects, yet is

* See page 30.

the most simple and natural of any disease ; nevertheless, few will believe they have the Gout until the inflammation appears.

The ancients, who carefully attended to the symptoms, and every effect of a disease, were sensible the Gout fixed on many different parts, and mentioned those affected in plain terms, but the ignorant, being unable to distinguish, or willing to support an empirical ostentation, gave the Greek word, which in fact only expressed the situation of the disorder, as the name of a peculiar disease. Thus the Gout in the jaw, was called
ed

ed * Siagonagra, in the vertebræ of the neck, † Trachelagra; in the back, Rachifagra; in the hip, Sciatica, (terms now in use) and so on of every other part: the original word was the screen to stupidity or design. But the derivation of those words was so plain to men of learning, that they suspected the professors of ignorance or knavery; and this brought an odium on the profession, and still induces many to imagine, the most noble and useful science to be a farce. This imputation will last, so long as physical people, in common conversation, make

* Siagonagra, from *σιαγών*, a jaw, and *ἄγρεα*, a capture.

† *τράχηλος*, the neck, from *τράχυν*, rough, and *ἄγρεα*, a capture.

use of technical terms. I heartily wish my brethren, especially the younger, would quit a custom that favours so strong of the pedant, and generally is an insult on the education of one half of the company; but in private, or amongst themselves, I would have them practise and make themselves masters: for it is absolutely necessary for a professor of physic, to know the technical terms of a disease, because they are expressive of its different stages and parts affected. But although the Gout, fevers, &c. are divided into many classes, no man, who has the least regard for his reputation, should make use of those words which only imply the distinctions,

tions, as separate diseases—for owing to such it is, that many labour under terrible ideal disorders, which, if explained to them, would point where they might apply for relief.

C A S E

C A S E VII.

Of the GOUT in the STOMACH,
and EXTREMITIES.

MONDAY April 7, 1766, I visited this patient, who (after an interval of about a month, from a severe fit of the Gout, which did then last him about six weeks) had been seven days confined to his bed, by this painful disorder.

The pain in his stomach was very violent, and the whole abdomen was greatly swelled and painful—had—
strong

strong incitations to vomit, but without effect—was costive—had not eat any thing for four days—his pulse—low, tremulous and irregular—had no use of his limbs, but was obliged to have five persons to turn and help him. The right hand was swelled and inflamed—his feet prodigiously affected—both legs inflamed and swelled, with a great tension under the hams—was in extreme agony, and thought by his family and neighbours to be in imminent danger.

At twelve at noon he began the medicine—at eight in the evening was able to move his legs in bed—next morning his appetite returned—eat
two

two bits of toast with his tea, at breakfast, and for dinner, the white parts of both the wings of a fowl—arose in the evening with only the assistance of two persons, and sat up some time. The inflammation and swelling on the wrist, feet and legs, were abated; the stomach and abdomen were free from pain. Next day I had cause to believe he had caught cold, as all the Wednesday morning he was faint and full of pain, but in the evening he revived, and again sat up; from which time he hourly recovered, and on the Sunday following, was able without stick or crutch, to walk about the house and into the yard; the gouty complaints had entirely left him

him on the Thursday before. He gradually recruited his strength, and was not long before he followed his business as usual, and would have done it sooner, had he not been retarded by a severe cold, got by accident. This however, did not bring on a relapse, and he is now as hearty and healthy as any man, nor has since had any sickness. His business is constant exercise, and one part of it requires an exertion of strength.

C A S E VIII.

Of the GOUT in the STOMACH.

TH E nineteenth of February I was called to a patient, who had kept his room near a month, with a violent fit of the Gout in the Stomach; a disorder he had been subject to many years, but was at this time much severer than usual. The former fits had generally, in fifteen or sixteen days, gone off by the extremities; but in the present case, there was not the least appearance of its terminating in that manner. His head and face were greatly swelled—the eyes

eyes and countenance discoloured—his tongue parched—pulse irregular—respiration short and difficult—stomach amazingly swelled and very painful—he vomited violently and frequently—had not any stools for several days, notwithstanding a constant tenesmus*—in a violent effort to procure one, he was again seized with the vomitings—these strainings had brought down an Entero epiplocele. †

I forbore for the present, meddling with the last-mentioned accident, but applied myself to remedy the *cause*

* A constant, though ineffectual desire of going to stool.

† That species of rupture termed by anatomists compleat, and is the falling down of the gut, with the omentum into the scrotum.

of

of these unhappy *effects*. In less than an hour the nausea and reachings ceased, and he became composed—in half an hour after, had two plentiful stools. I then paid attention to the rupture, which was happily reduced. The next day he was considerably easier; towards night the Gout was propelled from his stomach and head, to the inferior extremities; where nature was assisted by topical applications, whilst the internals were regularly taken. On the fourth, fifth and sixth days, we had many chalky concretions, which were dissolved or brought away. On the ninth day, the swelling and inflammation were subsided, and he was free from pain,

or

or any gouty complaint more than weakness, which was not so great as to hinder his walking about the house with the help of a stick only. His strength returned very fast, he left off taking medicines the thirteenth day, and I quitted him. Fourteen months afterwards, I saw him healthy and well: he assured me during that period he had not the least symptom of the Gout, whereas he had the fix last years generally been attacked three times in the year, but had, notwithstanding his age, * attended his business, (farming) with greater alacrity, and less fatigue, than he ever hoped for, since his first being attacked. †

* Sixty one.

† Thirty two years.

O B S E R V A T I O N.

To young practitioners it may appear strange, that I did not immediately attempt reducing the rupture: but here it is necessary to make that distinction between the *cause* and the *effects*, which I have so often recommended, and which is the indispensable duty of every person, practising either physic or surgery.

The vomitings, &c. following hernias, are symptoms of a mortification, which is the effect of tension on, and strangulation of the gut, &c. or too great a quantity of the omentum falling
ing

ing into the scrotum, by drawing the bowels and stomach downwards, will excite vomitings, and other dreadful complaints. In this case, it is very proper to attempt the *immediate* reduction, which the surgeon will be remarkably successful if he accomplishes; for generally, if the rupture is not reduced, before these symptoms come on, there will be an *absolute* occasion to perform the operation of the *Bubonocoele*, and often that (from being delayed) does not succeed. *

This patient's rupture, was the *effect* of the vomiting and straining; it would therefore have been absurd to

* Humanity obliges us to try every expedient prior to an operation, yet in these instances, I am assured the fatality is owing to its being too long deferred.

H

attempt

attempt reducing it, whilst the *cause* was gaining head ; for could I have done it (which I much doubt) his violent spasms would soon again have propelled it, and handling I apprehended, might bring on an inflammation, which would increase the tension, and render the reduction more difficult. Beside, I was called in, soon after the rupture happened, and although the quantity was very great that had fallen down, yet the short time the stricture had been made on it, did not make me apprehensive of an adhesion or mortification, and as to the fœces hardening, that requires some time ; nor is there great reason to be alarmed on this account, since “ the indurations felt, are
“ frequently

“ (frequently) the tension of the parts,
“ and not (always) the hardened
“ lumps of excrement.” * The e-
vent corroborated these observations,
and justified my treatment.

* See Sharp.

C A S E

C A S E IX.

Of the GOUT in the STOMACH and
EXTREMITIES, with ejected
CHALK-STONES.

ALTHOUGH costivity is generally a concomitant complaint with gouty persons, yet it is not always so; frequently diarrhæas precede, and continue during the paroxysm; as in the present case.

This lady, aged about fifty, naturally of a hale constitution, and plethoric habit, was troubled with the Gout, about three years in the extremities.

mities. As her fortune enabled her to have all kinds of advice, she neglected not to take every celebrated medicine, and was likewise under the care of the most noted empiricks, one of whom restored the use of her limbs for a short time, but then it fixed on the stomach, and obliged her to have *regular* advice. The physicians were all of opinion, that only Bath could be of service; but she was so ill, that they would not venture to give much hopes — as indeed there was danger in attempting such a journey; which however, was accomplished, and she remained there three months, from thence went to Llandryndod-wells, and after an absence of seven months, returned home

rather worse than when she went; yet as some small relief was obtained during the immediate time of travelling, after a stay in town of about two months, another journey was recommended, but prevented by a fresh paroxysm, accompanied with a diarrhæa and vomiting, the most violent I ever heard of.

June the 4th I first visited her, and beside the above complaints, she made little water, and of a foetid smell, with gravel—much wind, and difficulty in expelling it — no appetite — violent thirst — intermitting night fever — head--ach—her countenance yellow--the abdomen tense and inflated—the inferior extremities swelled, flaccid
and

and cold—the pain across her stomach she compared to a rope tightly bound round—it was the opinion of the person who had attended her that the liver was scirrhus. To mitigate the excessive pain, stomachic and cardiac draughts were prescribed, and ordered to be repeated as often as sick, or in pain, but the frequent repetition brought on a loathing, and she changed her cordials, merely because they had the appearance of medicines, for those of a more social kind—the best madeira wines--mint, cinnamon, orange-flower, pepper--mint, and penny royal spirituous waters, were taken as inclination guided and assisted with *liqueurs* and the aq : gallic : et aq : juniper : spt : as these gave a momentary

ease, they were frequently swallowed, until the palate became accustomed, and was then continual craving them.

The first difficulty I had, was to abolish these poisons. I mentioned my resolution, never to attend any patient who should expect the sacrifice of my reputation, by indulging them, in any thing detrimental to their recovery ; and refused to attempt her relief, until she promised strictly to adhere to prescribed rules the sense of danger accomplished my design, and that evening she began to take the medicine.

June the 5th The diarrhea somewhat abated—did not vomit quite so often, but still as violent—I examined
what.

what was ejected from the stomach ; it was of a dusky chocolate colour—sometimes it seemed pure bile—complained much when she vomited, that something gritty would scratch the throat, and feel like coarse sand in her mouth, but I could not perceive any thing extraordinary in the basin.

6th Had rested well—could eat a little toast at times with appetite, but it staid not long on the stomach, tho' the nausea had greatly left her.

7th The pain across the stomach, much easier—the abdomen not so tense—the vomitings not so frequent—towards evening the right foot began to be inflamed—eat some veal for supper—

supper—made a great deal of water, with a purple sediment.

8th Little rest—both feet affected—the legs and thighs slightly inflamed—an itching on the skin—towards evening in a total perspiration—free from wind—the stomach and abdomen easy, in spirits tho' the feet were in pain.

9th The paroxysm in both feet and insteps compleat—the abdomen thighs and legs of their natural size—head free from pain—drank tea and eat toast—the vomitings were now sudden and involuntary; unattended with nausea, and at intervals of three or four hours—but making the same complaint as on the fifth I again examined,

mined, and perceived *floating* several concretions (as they afterwards proved) about the size of rape seed—some were bigger (these I preserved) a small abscess formed on the outside of the right great toe, to which after fomentation, an emolient poultice was applied.

10th The pain in the feet abated---sat up near three hours--eat a moderate dinner—more concretions.

11th Had rested finely—left foot well—the abscess burst without pain, and discharged a matter, like to that mentioned in case the third, and was treated in the same manner—in good spirits—skin clear—her appetite seemed perfectly restored, and she sat up
from

from ten in the morning to near nine at night.

12th Did not vomit slept sound the whole night—got up— could walk across the room---diarrhea not at all troublesome. About an hour after breakfast (I was then with her) she was suddenly seized with a reaching, but emitted nothing except phlegm. Yet the efforts to clear her stomach (where she complained of excessive agony) were prodigious vehement, and continued so long that the family were frightened; nature was assisted with warm dilutents, but they were immediately ejected in the same state as when given---at length after a surprising strain, she brought up a large
concretion

concretion accompanied with a small quantity of dusky ciniritious phlegm like matter. These violent struggles occasioned a fainting and she was put to bed--- arose about four greatly refreshed by sleep, yet somewhat languid ---sat up till near 11 o'clock.

13th Arose to breakfast --- right foot a little tender --- stomach quite easy---could lace her stays close--went a small tour into the country to dinner---that night the medicine was omitted.

14th No complaint but weakness ---her water of a natural colour and smell-- no pain at the stomach or any indication of vomiting---regular habit

bit---breath'd freely---appetite perfectly restored---the extremities no way preternaturally enlarged or affected---every office of nature regularly carried on---in high spirits ---walked upwards of a mile about business, and back again---.

15th In the morning a lady's persuasion over-ruled my advice, and she swallowed a spirituous composition under the name of a cordial. That afternoon I thus far wrote out the case from my daily minutes---read it to her before the family and took leave; with warmly recommending abstemiousness, though fearful now she was her own directress, salutary injunctions would be but slightly observed---these conjectures proved too true--for on the

17th

17th I was again sent for---she had the day before walked to see an acquaintance who thought proper (tho' in the morning) to administer a *cordial* as a preventive to the wind. On coming home, finding a pain at her stomach, she repeated the *cordial*, but it increasing, the whole tribe of poisons were again culled, and consequently she grew worse and worse---the family were in the highest consternation--the lady seemed delirious, spoke inarticulately, and reached: it was the opinion of those about her, that her old disorder was returned, but I soon eased their anxiety by ordering only dilutents, which were copiously administered. In a few hours she became composed, and next day was well. I pointed

pointed out to her, and the family the difference between the complaints arising from the disorder, and those produced by not following the rules I laid down, of which I strongly enjoined an observance, but afterwards refused to have any farther concern with a patient that so lightly esteemed the blessing of health, by trifling and counter-acting the method that had reinstated, and would have established it.

R E M A R K.

We hourly experience the mortification of seeing our advice slighted--medicines untaken or rules broken thro' and the sufferer may generally charge one half the time of
of

time of his confinement, to his imprudent management, or the infallible stupidity of a family nurse, who shall take on her the liberty of acting diametrically contrary to the dictates of the Doctor; and after endangering his character, and the life of the patient, by the commitment of the grossest absurdities, and most palpable blunders, imagines it a sufficient excuse, to declare she did it after mature deliberation---and *I thought*, is to be the salvo for the most dangerous consequences. But no man of the profession, should tamely put up with such insults on his understanding; and it is long since I made a resolution (in which I wish the whole faculty would join) never to attend, after a second

I

deviation

deviation from my rules : the first time I tell them the bad effects, the second, take leave with as little ceremony, as was used in following their own caprice, and I have a pleasure in publicly declaring, that no rank or title, lucrative motive or intreaties, shall ever have any influence on me ; and whoever becomes my patient in any case, physical or chirurgical, *must* submit to my directions---which will ever be without parade and as natural as possible. I look on the care of my patient in a religious light, and should any die thro' my neglect, or for not calling in assistance, when conscious the task was too great for me ; I should deem myself a murderer in the eye of my God—but whilst thus I discharge the duties

ties of my profession, I will suffer no innovation, nor allow my intentions to be perverted.

Notwithstanding what I have before advanced, it may be imagined, (from my dwelling on the subject of obedience in the patient) that my rules or regimen are difficult to be followed; but the contrary is experienced by every patient I attend, although nature in different persons demands different treatment. I hope I do no more than the rest of my brethren, when I put myself in the room of the patient, and endeavour to suppose myself, wanting that assistance, he is craving. But tho' it is our indispensable duty, to

treat the sick or wounded, with tenderness, delicacy, affection and sympathizing humanity: yet ought we not to let a false pity (too often dangerous to the patient) rob us of our judgement, or stagger our resolution. What mischiefs have been occasioned by humouring the sick in the gratification of their *seemingly* appetites?—to prevent this error, I will point out when the appetite may not, or may be, indulged.

When the patient is restless and fancies savory meats, acid fruits, cordials or wines; when every hour produces a new inclination, and when obtained, they equally are despised;
then

then ought not the sick person to be the least humoured—for it is a certain sign of an irritation on the nerves, a debilitated viscera, or a viciated appetite ; and the gratifying of these hankerings, do but produce a loathing, and increase the complaints ; but when the patient has, after a fit of illness, a fixed longing for one thing, that continues for some time, and yet not a loathing tho' disregard for any thing else ; then may nature be indulged—it being a sure indication of a crisis---yet to see how simply nature is to be gratified ; these longings very rarely arise higher than the most innocent foods, or harmless liquors---who is there does not recollect instances of (what are called) cures

effected by draughts of water or small beer? after which the patient falls into a profound sleep, perspires, and awakes refreshed—the Apothecary is changed for the cook, and air supplies the place of the Doctor—the fact is, at this criterion, nature points out her want of assistance; the disease being corrected, the stomach and viscera cleansed by medicine, the usual functions are ready to be carried on, and a very little help recovers the natural tones of the different organs—the granting what is longed for, frees the mind from its anxiety; the irritation being taken off the nerves, the patient rests, and nature by the indulgence, is enabled to fling off any remaining morbid matter, by natural perspiration.

tion. Nature being so easily satisfied, we may perceive the error of loading the stomach with drams, and the poor lady whose case I have described is a fatal Instance of the bad effects.

It would be worth any ones while, to examine into the origin, of so pernicious a custom, which destroys more of the most amiable part of the creation, than all the diseases attendant on human nature—it is really amazing, to see women of virtue and understanding (who would start at the name of a dram) deceiving themselves and ruining their constitutions. To corroborate this melancholy assertion, we need only turn our eyes, to the cordial warehouscs, and behold the sc-

I 4 pulchres

pulchres of the fex. How this horrid habit arofe I know not, but how it is carried on I can partly account. Soon as women ripen to maturity, the extraordinary (tho' natural) change of conftitution, produces unufual emotions and complaints: amongft the latter, finking of the fpirits, and cholichy pains--the good mother or nurfe, without confidering or knowing the confequences, immediately adminifters fimple cordial waters; but thefe, tho' they are warm in the mouth, and may take off any little naufea, yet not removing the pains, recourfe is had to the ftronger and burnt fpirits with fpices, &c. it is true after a time, the patient becomes eafier; for the heat occafioned by the drams, in fome meafure accelerates the
motion

motion of the blood; and the surcharge being carried off, the complaints abate; * but this is hurrying nature, in her most delicate and important offices--the consequence is, that what would otherwise cool and free the habit from any peccant humours, is always attended with an inflammation and fever, and at a time when nature requires support, the stomach palled, vitiated and even vellicated, is unable to take (or rejects) its food, and the vessels, being suddenly distended, and partly proeternaturally emptied, lose in some degree their power of contracti-

* In a treatise on the disorders of the sex now preparing for the press (and designed for the use of ladies) this is handled more at large and easy rules laid down for the management of women in the different states.

on--hence proceed weakness of body, and habit: in due course the same symptoms affect, and the young lady remembering the agony she was in, and what ignorantly she believed was of service, has of her own accord, recourse to the same diabolical treatment, and this method is constantly followed, until the constitution continually racked and tortured, gives (in the pallid countenance) evident signs of being impaired--then new complaints arise—pains in the sides, pricking in the breasts, head aches, weariness, and the old complaint in the bowels, and stomach; hysseric and pepper mint waters, have no longer any effect; and the palate is accustomed to spirituous liquors; thus it is we see girls
from

from sixteen or seventeen, make no scruple after a walk, or any little fatigue, to swallow a (cordial) dram, provided it is tinged with the colour or taste of a fruit; * and it is remarkable that women on meeting (almost) naturally ask and persuade each other to drink---I will be bold to aver, that

* There is no general rule without an exception, and we have still amongst us, *prudent* mothers with *healthy* daughters—the whole on this subject is too mournful a truth and is wrote with affectionate concern, as a warning to my fair countrywomen; who, thank God, are not the inventors of such pernicious manners, but originally imported them, amongst other fashions less dangerous in their consequences, It is a known fact, that the English are the most prudent of any European women, and their error in this point is not owing only to the above reasons, but greatly to the impudent effrontery of those, who dare (in defiance of the college) advertize their poisonous compounds as cures for female complaints. Thus we have stomachic, nervous, cephalic, restorative and a number of other *cordials*, which are all recommended as excellent, and the nauseous taste of the baneful spirit is artfully disguised, and rendered palatable, by syrups and the juice of fruits.

one

one half the women, who die of hectic or consumptive complaints, from sixteen to twenty five, owe their dissolution to the above treatment : nor can it be wondered at, if we coolly examine the great pains taken to destroy girls. It is certain that more boys (in proportion to numbers) die before fifteen than girls * the reason (probably) is, women are sooner fit for marriage than men ; but this is a great point in favor of their † longevity ; yet at this time young ladies are taken from school to be *confined* at home, rarely permitted to enjoy the air, or go out, but

* The contrary is observed from sixteen to twenty five.

† Women from child bearing, incident complaints and delicacy of frame, live not so long as men, but they have a better chance to live to forty than men.

with

with their elders on visits of formality, where they cannot exert the faculties of body or mind--their diet is changed, a sedentary life takes place of an active one--natural perspiration is prevented, by the female arts to embellish the skin, and the unhealthy custom of (not only wearing them all day but) laying with gloves on, and these too often medicated. About this period, it is a received opinion, that physic is necessary; and through a false delicacy, the apothecary is not to make it up, but the mother poisons the child, from her own compositions—and here in truth, the way is paved, and the stomach accustomed to receive the other poisons : for instead of giving innocent cooling remedies, the warmest spiritu-

ous purges are administered—every lady Bountiful steeping her rubarb or jalap in spirit, making her own hiera picra, or believing her receipt the best for daffey's elixir or bitters—but as I intend in a separate treatise, to expatiate on this subject, I shall no longer dwell on what gives me real concern, what indeed is foreign to the intent of this publication, and which, but for the occasion, would not have been mentioned—yet as I have the most affectionate regard for, and lay under the greatest obligation to the sex (as a husband and son) it would be unpardonable, wholly to dismiss this topick, without endeavouring to pour balm into the wound, I may be thought too severely to have probed.

At

At the time of life hinted at, and from which women (from imprudent management) may date their disorders, mothers should carefully attend to their daughters taking proper exercise—for action separates the blood, scours the glands and lymphatic vessels, and promotes *every* secretion—for this purpose I know no better exercise (and which at the same time exhilarates the spirits) than dancing—but I highly disapprove of nocturnal revels—after any extraordinary exercise, as dancing, walking, or riding, they should be in bed rather before the usual time than after, that the perturbation of the spirits and nerves, may be composed, and the party enjoy natural rest—if physic is wanting, it should
be

be the most gentle and innocent; for if nature will not yield to such, all tampering must be laid aside, and the physician or family apothecary consulted; ladies private closets should contain nothing but simple medicines. If they have the heart burn, or any sourness on the stomach,* magnesia will ninety nine times in the hundred answer the intent—it is also a pretty purga-

* Ladies should be particularly careful in the choice of their magnesia, a medicine now well known; but though it appears so simple, yet it may be too freely made use of: for as it is a precipitated (earth-like) powder, it is not easily, if at all, dissoluble; and unless extremely well prepared, and rendered to an impalpable powder, so as from the lightness of its particles easily to be suspended in the liquid it is taken in, and with facility to mix with the fluid in the stomach and intestines, it will be liable too suddenly to precipitate, or settle, and, by forming into a mass, will cause obstructions, sometimes dangerous in their consequences—Hence proceed those cho-

tive,

tive, and should it heat in its operation, a little flower of brimstone will correct it : lenitive electuary, or some such gentle cooler, ought to be taken (if costive) a day or two before the expected time ; if of a spare hectic

licky pains and heat many find after taking magnesia, which will sometimes be voided in lumps, and being tinged with the bile it absorbed in the stomach may be mistaken for the gouty calculi ; but the difference, on breaking them, is immediately discovered ; the magnesia being in nearly the same state as when in substance before pulverizing, and coloured with the matter it meets with ; but the gout-stones found in the fæces are always grey, and are (as those voided by the stomach) composed of innumerable concreted bodies, very unlike those ejected after taking magnesia, which are firm. A striking instance of this kind I lately had under my care—a lady at Westminster, being of a very costive habit, attended with four eruptions, was advised to take magnesia ; but after a time, she complained not only of heat, but of many hard bodies or substances she had voided by stool, attended with excessive agony—as soon as I was informed of these circumstances, knowing the great quantity she had taken, I was

K habit,

habit, with twitchings in the bowels, &c. two or three spoonfuls of equal parts of fyryp of poppies and oil of almonds will be of service — if a hardness, tightness across the stomach,

at no loss to account for the cause of her disorder — and by ordering an electuary in which was crem: tart: flor: sulphur & sal: succin: she quickly was relieved. It is for this reason I order flour of brimstone, which, by its acidity, will cause a degree of effervescence with the magnesia, (without obstructing its design) and thereby prevent its concreting — three or four grains in a dose is sufficient. By this case we may judge how necessary it is to be careful in the choice of this inestimable (if well prepared) medicine. Mr. Glas has hitherto exceeded every one in the preparation; but lately another gentleman has obliged the public with what he calls an *improved* magnesia — they are both incomparably fine — I shall avoid speaking in favour of either — the public must judge for themselves, but I think both gentlemen deserve praise for their assiduity and ingeniousness; and it must afford a degree of satisfaction to Mr. Glas, to see himself rivalled *only* by one of the first men in the profession.

with

with sickness, a draught of warm (or barley) water will carry off the complaint—but no spirits—for if it is owing to a loaded surcharged stomach, by spirits, you prevent its efforts to free itself—if from an inflammation, you add fuel to the fire, and, by encreasing it, endanger a mortification. The physical people alone should have the care of administering cordials, which is a very nice point—the fear of having large sums to pay the apothecary is erroneous ; for if patients would only pay them for their knowledge, care, and attendance, they would not only save money, but avoid the disagreeable task of converting the stomach into a drug-shop.

O B S E R V A T I O N

On the Nature and Formation of External and Internal CHALK-STONES; with a Consideration, how far the GOUT may be said to be the Parent of JAUNDICE, DROPSY, and STONE.

THE error in supposing the origin of the gout to arise from any of the four known humours, has been frequently exploded; yet as no complaint is more frequent than bile—most of the patients whose cases I have related, having had some symptoms of it, and the received opinion that the calculi

calculi found in the ducts are produced and generated by the gall, might still induce many to imagine the gout to be a bilious disorder. But a strict enquiry into the nature of these concretions, and their productive cause, will entirely confute such notions—and, as far as the bounds prudential reasons allow me, I will proceed to explain, and afterwards hope satisfactorily to clear up, many points advanced in the course of this work—particularly, that so far from being a bilious complaint, the gout is the *immediate* parent of jaundice, dropfy, and stone; and, without dwelling on the progression of the paroxysm (which is so well described by Dr. Sydenham) speak more directly of the effects pro-

duced by this simple cause, when not in time corrected ; and duly consider the formation of chalk-stones, which I have been careful in remarking, not only in a variety of cases, but likewise in a very many dissections, expressly for that purpose made.

But first it may be necessary to premise, that the ejecting chalk-stones from the stomach, though not a frequent case, is nevertheless not a new one—many writers of note * having given instances—but the stone voided by this lady has amazed every one to whom I have shewn it ; its form is nearly oval, of a dark orange colour,

* Vide Aretæus, Trallianus, Sydenham, Freind, and many others.

six eighths of an inch long, five-eighths broad, and three and a half eighths the diameter, and weighs eighteen grains ; the component parts are formed by innumerable small concreted bodies, adhering together in a most wonderful manner, so as to make the surface appear even, though the irregularity of their formation seems to constitute their adhesion, by locking, as it were, one on the other ; yet they are very easily separated—one end of the stone appears broken and ragged, and from this end it is, in all probability, the small ones, she before vomited, were separated ; and I make no doubt but many more were carried downwards, as, notwithstanding her great relaxation, she would

often complain of obstruction from hardened bodies, which vastly hurt in their passage.

Here I cannot avoid taking notice of a case related by the late excellent anatomist, Mr. William Cheseldon, of a gentleman who, having voided many stones by stool, had afterwards two, of half an inch diameter, which made their way quite through the integuments of the abdomen. The veracity of that writer is deservedly held in the highest estimation, but in this instance, on a cool examination, he will be found to have erred in his judgment. At the period he wrote that account (though so few years since) it was generally believed, chalk-stones

stones formed only on the joints ; but daily experience evinces the contrary. I apprehend then, the gouty matter was separated, and lodged on the abdominal muscles, where it con-creted, like other chalk-stones, and then could easily cause its own excæ-cation. I am the firmer in this belief from the nature of the calculi formed *internally*, which would be broke, separated, and divided, in making their way through—or supposing the con-cretion capable of perforating and resisting the force of the abdominal muscles, yet every motion of the patient must have been productive of excessive pain, (a circumstance so accurate an observer and informer would not have missed) and the wound through the
perito-

peritoneum, abdominal muscles, &c. would not, in all probability, have soon healed. For as he, in another place, very justly observed, “any matter, or even water, lodged for a time on the peritoneum, makes the part where it was contained as foul as any ulcer.” Now that stones did suddenly perforate through the integuments of the abdomen, by any instantaneous efforts of nature, cannot be supposed; for in that case, the rupture of the peritoneum and muscles would have been attended with terrible consequences, and if they gradually lacerated the parts, the peritoneum must be a long time affected, and consequently ulcerated—instead of which it appears, Mr. Cheseldon looked
ed

ed on it in a trifling light, “ and it
“ was cured without much pain,”
which more strongly corroborates my
opinion, and is agreeable to what I
have observed in cases the third,
eighth, and ninth. Indeed I am
somewhat surprized so competent a
judge, and nice observer, could be-
lieve the stones had excæcated them-
selves from the gall-bladder—for that
I take to be his meaning, as I imagine
every one will, from the following
quotation. “ In those who die of the
“ jaundice, for the most part, are found
“ in the gall-bladder, and biliary-
“ ducts, concretions of bile, so light as
“ to swim in water; yet are called
“ gall-stones—a patient of mine, who
“ had voided by stool several of these
“ stones,

“ stones, had afterwards two, of half
“ an inch diameter, which made their
“ way quite through the integuments
“ of the abdomen, and *he was cured*
“ *without much pain.*” Solid bo-

dies, capable of resistance, as needles, plumb-stones, &c. there have been some few instances of making their way through the abdominal integuments ; yet the wound is generally with great difficulty cured, exclusive of the excessive agony the patient felt on the least motion, prior to its total extirpation—but that a body composed of infinite particles, liable to separate on the least motion, and so light, in its firmest and most compact state, as to float on water, could perforate such strong bodies, constantly in action—
will

will not bear a supposition—the chalk-stones might be so tinged as to resemble those found in the biliary ducts ; and how that was effected will be explained when I come to treat on the jaundice.

In the production of chalk-stones, I have observed, the gout first generates a viscid matter ; this increasing forms a substance somewhat like suet, or soft putty, which hardening by degrees, becomes lateritious and stony ; and this in part may be observed in the fore-mentioned cases—but it would be more obvious to every one, if persons afflicted with chalk-stones on the muscles, or in the joints, were carefully to observe their rise, increase, and formation :

mation : at first a numbing obtuse pain seizes the part ; then a small inflammation ; next a swelling. If the part is soft, yielding to pressure, and the integuments burst, there issues, in the first stage, a viscid serum ; in the second, a steatomitous matter, which on drying has the chalky properties—but if the integuments are not sufficiently extended to occasion their rupturing, the inflammation goes off, and the matter concretes, until by its hardness it gradually lacerates the enveloping integuments, and makes its way through them. This, allowing for the difference in the situation and structure of the parts, is the apparent manner, in which the internal calculi are formed ; nor can we wonder a moment

ment (when we see chalk-stones (by all allowed to be certain signs of a confirmed gout) form on those parts most exposed to the air, and farthest from the centre of vital action) that nature should perform the same where she is most sensible of injury, yet can more freely exert her efforts ; where she is most strongly assisted, and her operations most subtilly carried on. Thus we perceive the concretions formed in the gall-bladder, biliary-ducts, liver, kidneys, intestines, voided with the fæces or by urine, are as much chalk-stones as those formed on the muscles, fingers, or other joints--only they are of different colours ; the last mentioned being white ; those vomited, or found in the ducts, are tinged with bile; in the liver
and

and kidneys they are for the most part red ; in the intestines of a dusky colour ; and each of those will as distinctly mark their different tints as the other.

That the jaundice is occasioned by (gouty) concretions obstructing the biliary ducts, is universally allowed ; notwithstanding Petermannus and Et-muller endeavoured to enforce a contrary opinion, by relating instances of stones, found in the gall-bladder of subjects, who never were afflicted with the jaundice—but this is easily accounted for : so long as these gout-stones remain undisturbed, and are not propelled to the mouths of the ducts, the patient will not be liable to a disorder.

order which arises only from obstruction ; but when these stones are removed, by the spasmodic agitation of the biliary-ducts (often occasioned by sudden passions and affections of the mind ; as anger, sudden joy, fright, &c.) they obstruct, or wholly intercept, the course of the bile to the intestines ; consequently it regurgitates to the lymphatic vessels and blood, and proves the *immediate* cause of the jaundice. The nutritious juices and serum being by this means infected with the bile, the discolour of the skin is easily comprehended—and thus, I apprehend, the stones mentioned by Mr. Cheseldon might be tinged, so as to make them, in appearance, similar to those found in the gall-bladder, &c.

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Hence

Hence also (though in a milder degree) may be reasonably conjectured, that the disorder, to which the artful (ignorant in the profession) have given the name of scurvy, arises—I mean that kind of scurvy which almost every one complains of; and which, from the generality of it, has induced the public to believe is in some degree common to every one. I have conversed with a very many on this subject, and declare, that since my settling in London, I have not met with three *real* scorbutic cases; and yet that disorder is known to me——for when at Haslar (a royal hospital near Gosport, calculated for the reception and relief of sick and wounded seamen) I had daily and hourly before my
eyes

eyes variety of cases, in the different stages of the real *sea* scurvy ; and afterwards in camp, could not avoid seeing, and having under my care, many patients afflicted with the *land*.

As a detail of their difference, and method of cure, is foreign to my purpose, I shall content myself with quoting an explicit observation I some years since collected, and am sorry not to remember the author's name—" The
" scurvy (says he) properly so
" called, is a violent injury of the
" functions of the whole body ; arising from a dyscrasy and corruption of the blood and vital
" juices ; produced by the fault of the
" diet and air, familiar not only to seamen, the inhabitants of maritime

“ and northerly ports, but also to
“ soldiers residing in camps, and not
“ to be cured without great diffi-
“ culty.”

But the people in England complaining of the scurvy (exclusive of those who have been in the land or naval service) will be found to be such as have endured little or no hardships ; whose solids are compact, and generally of a hale constitution and habit of body ; who live at distances from the sea, have every necessary of life, and can, and do, indulge their appetites. The first complaint they make, is itching in the palms of the hands ; sometimes the skin breaks and peels off—then little eruptions on the body —sudden

—sudden head-achs — flushes — cold shiverings—an indifference about eating, yet feeding heartily when once they begin—a tightness at the stomach—pains in the back—spittle salt—restlessness of mind—horrors, and involuntary starts in sleeping—now not one of these symptoms but are certain indications of obstructions; and the only reason why such persons have not the jaundice is, because those obstructions are partial, not yet concreted, and the impeding matter only blocks up the excretory and glandular vessels; yet sometimes, after walking, quick exercise, sudden surprize, &c. the viscid matter is forcibly propelled, and, for a time, totally locks up the biliary-ducts—hence a sudden dampness comes

over the patient, and they turn yellow, as in the jaundice ; but the substance being soft and gelatinous, presently yields to the spasmodic exertion (owing to its strong nervous coat) of the ductus cholodocus, and the bile is carried on to the intestines : the ducts being suddenly freed, the circulation in the lymphatic and cutaneous vessels is quickened, and this occasions the sudden flushes, which almost immediately succeed the sick qualms and pain in the bowels and stomach ; but when the obstructions in the excretory glands last long, the surface of the skin will be covered with small scales like bran—the whole body will become pustulated, which breaking discharge a purulent serum—again, the face will be
over-

overspread with small pimples, accompanied with pain and redness, which, upon the increase of the inflammation, often rise up in little blisters, and spread considerably over the head, forehead and eyes ; in time it will likewise seize the feet, with swelling and pain—the whole legs will be inflated, with a shining colour on the skin, and irritated to a great degree of pain, on the least pressure. Persons thus affected are too apt to imagine themselves scorbutic ; but as these symptoms are attendants on the confirmed gout, and observing, on the dissection of such subjects, that the tophaceous matter found in the ducts, liver, &c. was the same as the gout in its second or viscid state, and agreed exactly (on drying)

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with

with the steatomitous or fuet-like substances found in the gouty external abscesses, I never hesitated to call this disorder, known by the name of the scurvy (though not like the real disease of that name) what it properly is—the *inactive* gout—and the difference between it and the active or confirmed is, that by correcting the cause the effects cease; but in the confirmed gout, the effects often cause a wonderful deal of trouble to eradicate—this doctrine is agreeable to the observations of the learned, who unanimously agree, that the finer, or less viscid, the gouty tophaceous matter, the milder are the symptoms and the paroxysms of the gout.

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The confutation of the notion, that these obstructions and concretions are generated by bile, now commands my attention. I apprehend then, it must be granted, that if the bile was capable of generating chalk-stones, it would be the cause of the gout; consequently, in order to form chalk-stones on the integuments of the muscles, or in the joints, a large quantity of bile must be separated, and mixed with the blood; and as the nutritious juices and serum would be totally, not partially, affected; the patient would be jaundiced whenever he was attacked, as well in the first fit as in the last paroxysm, more especially the whole time the chalk-stones were forming—again, if the bile was the parent of the

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concretions, they would all be of the same colour, as in the *ductus cholodocus* ; instead of which they vary, as before described—but in fact, the bile is a menstruum rather fit to dissolve than produce them ; and that, instead of generating, it is the destroyer of them, is strongly proved by observation, when it is demonstrable and evident, that those found in the gall-bladder and biliary-ducts are the lightest * and easiest dissolved ; those in the liver and kidneys are next ; and the ash-colour and white, which are the farthest situated from the immediate action of the bile, are the heaviest ; preponderating and sinking in the

* The largest of them will float on the thinnest fluid.

grossest

grosseſt fluids, and the leaſt diſſoluble of any—many other reaſons might be given, but as theſe are the plaineſt, ſo I hope they are ſufficiently ſatisfactory to prove, that bilious complaints, and the very worſt of them (the jaundice) are only the effects of the gout: and from the obſervations made, comparing the exact ſimilarity of the external and internal matter, it muſt appear but natural to every thinking man, that the gout, being the productive cauſe of chalk-ſtones on the muſcles and joints, muſt be the parent of the internal calculi; which being of the ſame nature, and having the ſame properties, as the gouty chalk-ſtones formed externally, muſt owe their riſe and origin to the ſame

same matter or cause which generated the other.

After thus shewing the gout to be the productive cause of chalk-stones; which, by obstructing the biliary-ducts, occasion the jaundice; we come, in a regular manner, to consider, how far dropfies may be said to *proceed* from the gout. Aretæus * says, “ If
“ the jaundice continues long, and
“ the viscera becomes inflamed, it de-
“ generates into a dropfy :” but nervous and pertinent as this remark seems, there are other reasons to be given—many gouty persons having died of the dropfy, who never had the jaundice.

* Lib. i. chron. cap. 14.

The first stage of the dropfy, occasioned by the disorder we are treating on, is swelled legs, thighs, abdomen, and breasts ; pitting on pressure ; without much tenderness on the skin, or unweildy internal fluctuating sensations on motion—this species is owing to the redundant gouty matter becoming viscid ; which obstructing the circulation in the small lymphatic and excretory ducts, and by compressing those vessels, oblige them to spill their contents ; which lodging between the muscles and the integuments, fill the cavities of the enveloping membrane ; but this is easily cured, and when the *cause* is corrected, the *effects* speedily yield to external applications. Persons who have long laboured
under

under severe fits of the gout, have an imbecility and weakness of the solids; and the paroxysms, by destroying the vigour and tone of the viscera, render the circulation of the blood languid, and produce a suppression of the excretions; from whence is generated a cachexy, or universal bad habit of body; which, according to Boerhave, “proceeds from a defect in nutrition; “which must arise, either from a depravation of the nutritious juices, “a defect in the vessels which ought “to receive those juices, or *a deficiency in that action of the animal œconomy, by which a part of the circulating juices is applied to the solids for nourishment.*” From hence Aretæus, in his second book of chro-

chronical affections, seems positively to assert that dropfies arise—but altho' I mean to be understood, solely to speak of, and confine myself to those stages of diseases which are the immediate consequence and result of the gout (as confirmed by living cases, the dissections, observations, and experiments I have made) yet as a cachexy may proceed from any other long illness, or an abuse of the non-naturals, and a dropfy be the consequence, I shall be more particular in explaining the gouty cause of the dropfy.

A more solid and satisfactory reason cannot be given for a dropfical swelling, than a *difficult, obstructed, or languid* circulation — the remaining
for

for a long time in a state of inactivity naturally generates an impure blood, and *a languid circulation*. Again, persons are weakened by the fit, and the nerves so irritated by pain, that the passions are affected by the most trivial circumstances ; and by the extraordinary commotion of the mind, the stomach and duodenum, together with the adherent biliary-ducts, are violently and spasmodically contracted—hence the due secretion of bile and pancreatic juice, in order to promote a laudable * digestion, is not only prevented ; but also, flatulencies are

* This accounts for, and explains why, those afflicted with the gout have generally windy complaints, and are costive.

gene-

generated, which check the discharges by * stool, and render the circulation of the blood *obstructed* and *unequal*—but a more explanatory argument, in support of my assertion--still remain -- and this proved fact, puts it beyond doubt:

When the paroxysm, by its length and continual irritation, has exhausted the strength of the patient; and by seizing on the different limbs and joints, rendered him totally inactive—the muscles, for want of action, lose their springiness and elastic power, and the integuments become flaccid, collapsed, and are not pervious to the matter, which by external applications, the patient in vain endeavours to have exsudated. The consequence will be

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(if not corrected and carried off by medicine, or it does not concrete and form chalk-stones on the joints, muscles, or integuments) it is absorbed into the circulation ; and the innumerable number of glandular bodies in the liver, filtrate it from the vena portæ, (and separate it from the bile) and being thus flung on the liver, has time to assemble its particles, and generating into the viscid, or second state ; by superior gravity and consistence, blocks up the mouths of the vessels, and compressing the ramifications of the vena portæ, cause an inflammation—of course an obstruction. Now as the fluid and aqueous particles, never more readily and expeditiously secede from the
blood,

blood, than when the circulation by obstruction is slow and languid through the viscera ; and as there is no where a greater number of lymphatics than in the liver and contiguous parts, the vessels being distended by a copious discharge, and afflux of lymph, are raised into vesicles ; (called hydatids) which breaking, a dropfy is suddenly generated, and an incredible quantity of serum is discharged into the abdomen, which too hastily impedes the whole office of nature, and occasions a dissolution, within little time after the disorder is ascertained—and is the reason why we so seldom see gouty patients with confirmed dropfies (exclusive of the first stage) labouring for any time under this disorder—but

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supposing them to enjoy an uncommon degree of strength, and they have the operation performed—as all these hydatids seldom or never break together, the * Paracentesis at the best will be found only a partial relief, and the patient must infallibly die, unless other means are tried.

There is another disorder incident to the liver, directly proceeding from and produced by the gouty matter; which, so soon as lodged on it, is, by natural efforts, carried forward to the superior and convex part, where it fixes immediately under the membrane, and after a time, changing from its viscid state,

* The proper name of the operation, from *παρὰκενῆω*, to pierce, or perforate.

concretes to a chalk-stone. This, by action, being moved, with the fine points of its lateritious particles, lacerates the internal surface of the enveloping coat, and the contiguous membrane (for every gland has its proper membrane, exclusive of the general one) and naturally promotes an inflammation—that digesting, a tumour is formed; which compressing the adjacent parts, propagates the compression and tumefaction to the whole—the matter pent up becomes corrosive, and penetrating to the next gland, that undergoes the same fate, and is thus continued, until all becomes a foul and putrid mass; the lymphatic vessels being compressed, empty themselves, and mixing with the pus, renders it fluid—

this stage is termed the dropfy IN the the liver.

I once, on dissection, found the coat of the Liver distended with matter, to a great degree, and internally studded with chalk-stones, of a red (some of them approaching to a scarlet) cast; and in the gall-bladder were thirteen stones, of various magnitudes, tinged with bile, which I observed were more porous, and the spiculæ of the component particles worn away—after the most careful measuring, reducing both to powder, and various experiments, it appeared, that these dissolved sooner, and were intrinsically two-thirds lighter than those in the liver; which proves the bile to be a “menstruum
“ rather

“ rather fit to dissolve than generate
“ chalk-stones”—the fluid contained in the membrane of the liver was of a reddish green, very fætid—the internal abdominal viscera were black, and tending to putrefaction—the right ureter was distended by a small concretion (in colour and consistence like those in the liver) and near a tea-spoonful of black steatomitous substance. He had been cured, about five years before his decease, of a violent paroxysm in the feet, by an external application—but from the time of using it, found (as he fancied) the stomach* affected, and a soreness from the pit of it, and around his belly.

* Vide p. 101. l. 8.

From what has been said, it will be perceived, that the dropsy in the abdomen, or in the liver, may be occasioned by different attacks of the gout, viz. from imbecility and a dyscrasy of the solids, owing to frequent and long paroxysms; or seizing, and immediately fixing on the liver—which it is as liable to do, as on any other part.

That patients may be sensible when they are afflicted with gouty obstructions in the liver; or when chalk-stones and dropsy are there forming; I will point out the progressive symptoms, particularly in this last state; the first stage of obstructions being given in the account of the inactive
gout,

gout. A heat in the mouth—frequent fore throats—a dry huskiness in the morning—spittle acrid—sudden shiverings, more especially after filling the stomach—lassitude—an unwellness in action—increase of size—a tenseness on the abdomen, with an internal shaking sensation, on violent motion; yet no fluid can be perceived, on the common method of examination. This criterion of the gouty effects is the more dreadful, because not being attended with the usual symptoms of the dropfy, a patient may labour under it many years, seemingly enjoying a tolerable state of health, and not be sensible of his danger until the whole mass is corrupted, and the fluctuation perceptible on percussion.

This

This last described case, of the drop-
sy in the liver, is no more than a cer-
tain stage in what is commonly called
the gout in the stomach—although
in conformity to custom, and not too
precipitately to break through com-
mon opinion, before I had made my
readers conversant with the subject, it
may be observed, I have several times
spoken of the gout in the stomach,
and even so intitled some cases, as if
the disorder was actually there situ-
ated—yet nothing is a grosser mistake;
that organ never being the seat of the
gout.

An assertion of this kind, so directly
contradictory to received opinion, will
startle many ; and it may very natu-
rally

rally be asked, how it happens that gouty persons, after eating or drinking certain aliments or fluids, *do* find uneasy sensations at the stomach, and soon after have a paroxysm? As I wish to be clearly comprehended, I will answer a question, which at first sight has a specious appearance of argumentative confutation, with the simplest and plainest reasons.

No peculiar fruits, vegetables, animal food, or liquids, have in themselves a gouty property, or tendency to procure it—if they had, it is certain, every one who made use of them would be afflicted; and there would be an absolute necessity for the diseased, and all mankind, to live after one and
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the same manner, which would be, Camelion-like—on air. For “ the different temperaments of mankind requiring different treatment,” foods abounding with contrary alimentary salts would be equally prejudicial to various constitutions; which is evinced by gouty persons finding relief from opposite diet, &c —cordial wines, invigorating soups, and animal food, shall agree with one; whilst acid fruits, wines abounding with tartar, vegetable broths, low diet, and every thing that attenuates, shall be of service to the other—each, from a *felt* knowledge of its utility, recommends his method; and both certain of their efficacy, strenuously assert their virtues; but let them once change, and the old adage will

will be verified, viz. What is one man's food proves another's poison — thus by a parity of reasoning, may the question be answered—habituated custom has rendered different aliments constitutional to different persons—the stomach accustomed to certain viands, or modes of cookery, rejects what is unusual to it—erroneous tales and notions of physic, have implanted ideas of the unsalutariness of particular fruits, liquors, and diet: the afflicted, without regard to their nature, through a laudable desire of establishing their healths, abstain from such food, as they are made to believe prejudicial: of course, after a time, they become preternatural—the constitution, by peculiar living, is impregnated more
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with acids or alkalines ; and the balsamic parts of the blood being separated for nutrition, these juices must contain the predominant quality ; and the stomach, by taking in food conveying a contrary salt, is dilated by the fermentation, and compressed by the liver—the habitual disposition in the juices being counteracted, causes a commotion through the whole mechanism ; the gouty particles are conveyed to different parts, a paroxysm insues, and the internal uneasy sensations, called the *stomachic* gout, is owing to the matter either immediately fixing on, or by imprudent management being repelled into the circulation, and carried to the liver (after the manner already related) creates an inflammation;

flammation, which renders it sore to the touch, and, by distending, causes it to compress on, and be compressed by, the stomach: hence the incessant forenefs on the belly, and sickness and shiverings after eating. The frequent violent vomitings, one of the characteristics of the stomachic gout, is occasioned by the biliary ducts being obstructed; the bile rendered inert, stagnates and becomes acid and acrimoneous—or too large quantities of it remaining in the duodenum, and not mixing with the aliment, or from an accession of acid humours, is rendered in a manner caustic, and vellicating, excites bilious, green, and black vomitings—or the inflammation, and distension, of the liver affecting the diaphragm,

phragm, it is contracted, and squeezing the stomach, causes an ejection of the contents.

In order to explain this action of the diaphragm, I shall make a quotation from Dr. Cheyne; who, speaking of the prejudices against vomiting, observes, they arise from an ignorance of its mechanism, and the way it is performed; which in order to illustrate, he sets down, in *English*, *Turnfort's* own words, as he gives an account of it in the preface to his excellent piece on the plants which grow about Paris. “ Mr. Chirac, says he; “ demonstrates, in a manner obvious “ to our senses, the action of the stomach, and of the organs employed “ in

“ in vomiting. Having made a
“ *wound* along the *rib* that lies over-
“ against the navel of a dog, who
“ had swallowed some corrosive *su-*
“ *blimate*, and was making most ve-
“ hement endeavours to vomit, he
“ slipt in his hand through the *aper-*
“ *ture*, and took hold of the stomach ;
“ and there he found that the *stomach*
“ itself felt no manner of force or vio-
“ lence ; *but that the diaphragm*, and
“ the muscles of the lower belly, *con-*
“ *tracting* themselves, both at the
“ same time, in an instant, with incre-
“ dible force, squeezed the hand that
“ held the stomach.” From this ac-
“ count it is evident the *stomach* itself
“ suffers no more violence in vomit-
“ ing, than a vessel doth that is clean-

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fed

“ fed by pouring water into it, and
“ pouring it out again ; for the whole
“ stress of the vomit lies on the *dia-*
“ *phragm*, and the muscles of the
“ lower belly.”—They always act by
consent of parts, in concert with the
diaphragm, which will be contracted
by compression, inflammation, irrita-
tion, nausea, or grief.

I must repeat my desire to be understood, wherever the words *stomachic gout* occurs, as speaking of a disorder incident to the liver : but although attended with such dreadful effects, yet, as they are a long time before they arrive to a degree of danger, patients may be perfectly cured, even after matter is formed ;

ed; and the paroxysm when the liver is the seat of it, may as readily be carried off, and the cause effectually corrected, as when nature has kindly endeavoured to free herself, by flinging the fit on the extremities.

Of all the effects of the gout, none give more excruciating torments than the formation and passage of stones, in and from the kidneys and ureters, to and in the bladder. The symptoms have been so often elegantly described, by eminent writers, that it only remains for me to point out how they are produced, and to make a distinction between the paroxysms called by the ancients, *Rhachisagra* and *Rachisagra*.

The gout in the kidneys is seldom perceived, but by persons of lively spirits, and active dispositions, prone when young, to extraordinary exercise, as leaping, running, dancing, &c. or by those of melancholic, studious, sedentary habits. In the former, the momentum of the blood being quickened by action, and the commotion causing too large a quantity of the gouty matter to mix with it, will have the same effect, as when, by a sedentary life, it, and every other known humour is increased, and nature propels the obnoxious particles to those emunctories, wisely contrived to carry off the surcharge. Thus, in either case, the gout circulating

culating with the blood, is carried by the inferior descending aorta into the emulgent arteries, which go laterally from it into the kidneys, whose use is “ to separate the urine “ from the blood, which is brought “ thither for that purpose, by the “ emulgent arteries,” and what remains from the secretion, is returned by the emulgent veins, while the urine secreted is carried off, through the ureters to the bladder.

As the liver, in secreting the bile, separates the gouty matter, so, in like manner, do the kidneys, in the secretion of urine ; which not being of a consistence to accumulate it, for some time, the matter is carried off through

the bladder : but if the surcharge be great, by continual dripping, part will lodge in the *tubuli urinarii*, and collecting its particles, form into a mass ; this being flung into the ureters, distends them, and causes a suppression, until the urine hourly increasing, forces it along into the bladder, where mixing, it is discharged every time the patient makes water, and often, by remaining long, turns purulent. When not thus passed off, it becomes steatomitous, and, by preponderating, constantly aggregates the earthy particles of the urine, and receiving strata upon strata, forms into a stone—in this adhesive state, settling in the bladder, is more dangerous than when it concretes in the pelvis of the

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the kidneys ; for then, though it may cause a painful suppression, by blocking up the ureters, which may be lacerated in its passage, and give excruciating anguish ; yet, by the necessary force with which it is propelled forward, the component parts will separate, and be evacuated through the urethra. Thus we see many suddenly freed, after having laboured under concretions in the kidneys and ureters, by at once (though with excessive agony) voiding a number of stones. The gout-stones being so light as to float, what remain are soon discharged, very rarely adhering to the coat of the bladder ; and when they do, never collecting such a lamina as in the former state.

But

But there is a stage of the disease, which having almost every simular symptom, as when it lies in the kidneys and ureters, is sometimes mistaken for obstructions in those parts. The ancients called it *Rhachisagra**, or *Rachisagra*† ; but their making a distinction between them was too hypothetical, and attributing to the former only, the productive cause of nodes and paralytic affections, was cruelly and unnecessarily accumulating horrors on the already too many dreadful effects of the gout. Nodes can be produced but by wounds, or matter

* From ῥάχις, the spine of the back ;

† Or from *Rachiai*, the muscles belonging to the back, and *Rechia*, ῥαχία, ῥεχιά, from ῥέω, an overflowing or redundancy of humours, and ἄγρεα, a capture of the gout.

corroding

corroding and destroying the perio-
steum, or fine membrane, which co-
vers and serves as a boundary to con-
fine the dimensions of the bones; or by
disorders in the bones themselves.—

The gout not being in its first state
of a corrosive quality, cannot destroy
the periosteum, until by concreting
it lacerates it; and whenever this is
the case, the calculus, on dissection, is
found—or if the gout fixed in the
bones, those of the feet, legs, arms, and
shoulders, would be affected much
sooner than the vertebræ of the spine
—but this last is too supposititious to
engage our thoughts; and the other
is not common, even in the extremi-
ties, and never instanced on the spine
—the idea of a palsy proceeding from
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the gout is dreadful — but the advancing it to fix on the medulla spinalis, contained in the inferior vertebræ, by which means the lower limbs lose their office, is empirical. I well remember the case of an officer, taking the field after a paroxysm and falling from his horse in a paralytic fit, losing the use of the extremities : although it was judged as proceeding from a repelled gout, yet I did not believe it fixed on the spinal marrow ; but rather, that being absorbed into the circulation, it was flung on the brain, and compressing that part called the *medulla oblongata* (from whence the spinal marrow and the nerves, which are the organs of sensation, and extend to every sensitive part,

part, owe their origin) a palsy ensued—in this opinion I was strongly confirmed, as the thighs and legs first recovered their functions ; and after being able to walk about, his speech remained inarticulate, and it was long before he recovered that, and the use of his hands ; so frequently we observe the afflicted taking cold at the time the effects of the gout make their appearance in the extremities, and thinking to carry off the fit by sweating, they cloath extraordinarily, or drink warm whey, posset, &c. by which the momentum being increased, the surcharge is flung on the brain, and the fit commences with a delirium. From these and many other reasons, I am induced to believe, the

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Rhachifagra never did exist, in the manner those authors who have mentioned it, would have us imagine; and that art only joined the fancied symptoms to the Rachifagra, which is very common; numbers being troubled with it who never had other complaints than what they conjectured were rheumatic, or proceeding from the gravel; such feel it after long sitting in nearly the same position, riding or walking fast; but the surcharge being small, the effects continue not long; or being, perhaps, situated just within the external membrane, are soon exsudated. But when the paroxysm is complete, happening to those who have endured much—been hurt in the part—or had prior
fits

sits, the patient loses the use of his limbs beyond the power of *external* application to relieve.

To fully explain this matter, I must observe, that there are, belonging to the loins, two pair of muscles; the first, called psoas parvus, serves in bending the knee forward, and raising the haunch bones in progressive motion; the other, stiled psoas magnus, bends and moves the thigh; hence it is that when the gout seizes on those muscles*, the patients cannot stand upright, and either with pain and difficulty drag their limbs or totally

* The manner in which muscles: owing to gouty causes, lose their tones and actions has been before explained.

lose their action—this last more especially, if the gout affects the iliacus internus, which is inserted with the psoas magnus into the lesser trochanter of the thigh—but although the limbs are useless, yet their sensation continues ; nor do they emaciate—both of which must undoubtedly and consequently be the case, if the spinal marrow or crural nerves were oppressed.

When the *effects* of the gout have established their residence on the muscles of the lumbar region, it rarely happens, but some particles are flung on the external coat of the strong muscles of the back, and form little *agratie* ganglions,

ganglions, which are easily felt, and often induce the patient to believe occasion the loss of motion—but are too trivial to deserve notice ; nor could I ever perceive the latissimus dorsi injured by them ; yet it is difficult to dissuade the afflicted from entertaining this opinion ; and I have known several try all manner of experiments, even to the employing farriers—but the cause was too latent, and it is impossible for any topical application to be of service. When the *cause* is corrected (as it may be) then, indeed, remedies to recover the lost tones of the muscles would not be improper. There have been instances, after the gouty concretions had formed on the psoas muscles, that by motion, or some occasional

casional event, they have been removed, and made their passage between the interstices of the muscles, until their substances could be felt on examination—the patient making complaints of pleuretic pains, a sense of weight on the hip and in the loins, and indeed (as before mentioned) every other, to which persons afflicted with concretions in the kidneys and ureters are liable (excepting in point of urine) the case is generally supposed to be obstructions in those parts ; and guided by the body, incisions have been made through the integuments, and the concretion brought away—this is a lucky event to the patient ; for the muscles of the loins, being freed from their oppression, in little time
recover

recover their usual action, and the inferior extremities perform their natural office. Although no operation can be more simple, yet the artful have seldom failed to take advantage of it : and to raise a reputation from making the ignorant believe, the calculus was extracted from the kidneys*—thus, very often, a trifling case and a timorous patient, or an incidental simple operation, shall lift the bold big-worded ignorant into the vehicle of Fame, whilst ingenuous modest merit trudges studiously along, or remains hid in the vale of obscurity.

* Notwithstanding the many cases of this kind related, such assertions are only excusable in those, who have candour enough to own their ignorance of anatomy.

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It may appear strange, on a mere cursory view, after repeating, that different temperaments of mankind require different treatment, I should mention any *one* medicine as a curative in all constitutions—I point out this objection, because I am desirous to obviate every doubt—a retrospect, therefore, of what has been said on the subject becomes necessary, to clear up this seeming inconsistency. * *I have a preparation that immediately strikes at the CAUSE of the gout ; but this must be varied in quantity and form, according to the age, constitution, and habit of body : nor will this alone always do, unless the concomitant complaints are carefully attended to.* In the course

* Page 19, 20.

of this work it may be remarked, that the gout has more than once been mentioned as a simple complaint, inherent with our nature—from my earliest knowledge in the profession I thought it might be cured ; and, to confirm my opinion, every author who wrote on the subject, in the languages I am conversant with, has been carefully perused—at first it amazed me to find men, equally shining in their profession, flatly contradicting each other, and attributing the disease to opposite causes: but, on a close examination and comparison, I found they were only contending to support what they acknowledged to be an hypothesis ; and that, as few wrote who were not afflicted, they did no more than describe the ef-

fects it had on each constitution, whilst their doctrine of cure was confuted by their living with, and dying by it. However, as all had laid down some rules, and recommended certain medicines or applications, I carefully collected what they imparted, and selecting from amongst them the most eligible, gave them a fair trial : but proofs told me they all failed—convinced of the error in aiming to cure the effects of a disorder, whilst doubtful of the *cause*, I determined with unabated assiduity to trace its origin. The fine opportunity I enjoyed in the service of my country, gave me advantages not otherwise to be attained ; but it was not until after very, very many waking nights, lonely “ *holding*
“ *converse*

“ *converse with the dead,*” making observations on the living, and arduously, for years, pursuing this object, that I ascertained my point ; and then was astonished at the errors of those who had wrote on it, and delighted to find, that though a disorder inherent with our nature, and without which we could not exist ; yet it could be as radically cured, as any complaint arising from an impure state or undue circulation of the blood ; that *the cause was the same in all*, and that the various effects may be eradicated—that it might always be kept in the due state so necessary for life, and after being once properly corrected (as mankind are more or less subject to peculiar disorders, as colds, agues, fevers,

&c. so) those prone and liable to paroxysms of the gout, either from a vitiated or redundant state of the cause, might, whenever they were attacked, be in a few hours * perfectly relieved, and the dreadful effects be flung on the extremities†, and carried off—but my greatest satisfaction was the being enabled, from the knowledge of the *cause*, to adapt and prepare a medicine that would immediately strike at, and answer every internal salutary purpose. Yet this alone will not always do, unless the concomitant complaints are

* Vide Case II. p. 45 ; and the person described in Case VII. remained well until after his case was printed, viz. to August 21, being an interval of sixteen months, but was then severely attacked, yet in a few hours perfectly relieved.

† Vide Cases VIII. and IX.

carefully

carefully attended to. The observations made, the knowledge acquired from those who wrote, the opinions and prescriptions gained, during my searches, all contributed to assist me in the ascertaining the cure of the effects. The weak supposition, that because late physicians, eminent in their times, knew not the *cause* of particular complaints, therefore *it* could not be ascertained, is the most impotent supposition despondency can broach, and is circumscribing the most boundless science.

The impiety of blaming the Omnipotent for not having primævally made us omniscient, was mentioned in the beginning—but can it be supposed,

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when every art is daily improving, when navigation, architecture, painting, music, history, and manufactures are arriving nearer perfection, that the Beneficent will confine our searches in the most natural and useful ?—past facts confute the error, and demonstrate His enlightning goodness. In *physic* very many are the improvements ; not to omit, that the cure of the lues, and the use of a variety of natural and simple medicines, amongst them the Peruvian bark, magnesia, &c. were unknown to the ancients. In the preparation of *medecines*, and *chymistry*, Galen, Paracellus, and their followers, against whom, in their time, none dare speak, have been excelled, and their errors confuted. In *surgery*

gery, inoculation, the cutting for the stone, and every other operation speak its superior humanity and excellence. In anatomy, the beginning of the seventeenth century brought to light the circulation of the blood, of which Hippocrates, the great father of the profession, had not a conception; and so long as his name, and the memory of other founders of medical knowledge, shall be held in esteem, so long shall Harvey be venerated—but though from him we derive the first clear account of the blood's motion, yet, at this time, there is not a professor but perfectly understands it, and can give a better account of the organism and other functions of the animal œconomy. Indeed, since the discovery of
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the circulation of the blood *, by the incomparable *Harvey*, it is much more easy to account for life, for health, and for diseases ; as also in a pathological manner to explain the doctrine of fevers, hæmorrhages, inflammations, and several other diseases.

“ Since the conveyances of the chyle from the intestines to the blood have been discovered ; since various small glands and glandular coats have been detected in the intestinal duct ; and since we have adverted to the winding situation of the duodenum, which is justly called a second or a kind of aux-

* The curious may reap much pleasure in the perusal of the Preface to the second volume of Dr. James's Medicinal Dictionary, where the history and progress of the art is finely treated.

iliary

iliary stomach, in which two humours meet the bile and the pancreatic juice, we are able to give a better and more rational account of digestion, chylification, sanguification, and the generation of diseases, which have their seat in the first passages.

“ Since the lymphatic vessels have been discovered by *Bartholine* and *Rudbeckius*, and afterwards farther investigated by *Nuck* and *Ruysch* ; since the structure and use of the glands have been more fully displayed by the researches of *Wharton*, *Nicholaus Steno*, *Nuck*, *Cowper*, *Malpighi*, and *Morgagni* ; and since the conveyances of the chyle through the lacteal vessels, and thoracic ducts have been detected
by

by *Pecquet*, *Bartholine*, *Van Horne*, and others, we are much more able to explain those diseases which arise from a fault of the glands and lymph, or from a depraved nutrition.

“ Since the structures of the viscera, lungs, brain, and liver, have been investigated by the accurate *Malpighi*, and that of the kidneys by *Bellini*, we far better understand the origin and causes of disorders incident to these viscera. We are also much indebted to the pains which *Stero*, *Vieussens*, *Willis*, *Ridley*, *Leuwenhoeck*, *Ruysch*, and others have taken, in inspecting the brain more narrowly than any had done before them. We are also highly obliged to the labours of *Glisson*, *Bianchi*,

anchi, and *Morgagni*, for their accurate accounts of the structure of the liver; and to those of *De Graaf* and *Brunnerus*, for our acquaintance with the pancreas.

“ Since *Casseri* and *Ruysch* have evidently shewn the compages of the spleen to be vascular and cellular, we have fairer opportunities of discovering the diseases incident to this organ, and finding out a proper and adequate method of curing them.

“ Since we know the peculiar and surprising structure and distribution of the vena portæ, which performs the office, at once, of an artery and of a vein; and since we now know the
number

number, the origin, the situation, and course of the hæmorroidal vessels, we are the better able to explain and account for all those diseases which flow from the faults of these vessels, and an interception of the progressive motion of the blood through the abdominal viscera, of which class the hypocondriac disorder is none of the least considerable.

“ Since we know the surprizing fabric of the uterus, and are assured of the manner in which the blood circulates through its contorted vessels, we can easily discover the diseases incident to that organ, and account for their origins and several symptoms upon clear and intelligible principles.

“ Since

“ Since the origin of the nerves, from the brain and spinal marrow, and their admirable distribution into curious ramifications, have been investigated by *Vieussens*, and some others, we can readily account for spasmodic and convulsive disorders, particularly for hypochondriac and hysteric affections, and explain their most formidable symptoms. In consequence of this discovery, we are also better enabled to understand the consent of the parts, especially those of the nervous kind; and the method in which disorderly and preternatural motions are communicated.

“ Since *Swammerdam* and *De Graaf*, and after them *Cowper*, *Morgagni*,

gagni, *Santorini*, and other celebrated men have investigated the parts of generation in both sexes, we have the diseases incident to these parts subjected to our senses, and their causes, as it were, exposed to open view.

“ Since the admirable organ of hearing has been accurately and anatomically described by *Du Verney*, *Valsalva*, and *Cassebhomius*, the defects and impediments of hearing are far better understood than they were before.

“ Since the small glands of the joints have been discovered in the bones by *Havers*, the origins and causes of their disorders are far more plain

plain and conspicuous than they formerly were.

“ Since the incomparable and accurate *Ruyfch*, by injecting tinged liquors into the vessels, has discovered the innumerable and strangely varying windings of the capillary vessels, we have a far clearer and more distinct knowledge of the use of the glands, and secretory organs, and consequently of the several disorders to which they are subject.

“ ’Tis obvious that the geometrico-mechanical structure of the muscles, as described by *Borelli*, *Steno*, *Winslow*, *Santorini* and *Albinus*, and the muscular compages of the heart, detected

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by

by *Lower* and *Lancisi*, are discoveries of singular service in determining the motions of the joints, understanding the force and pressure of the heart, and the impulse of the fluids.

“ In a word, all the anatomical discoveries of the *moderns* have contributed to illustrate, to beautify and adorn the healing art. Nor have the physico-chymical discoveries contributed less to the advancement of medicine ; for since, by various experiments, we have discovered the gravity and elasticity of the air ; since we know the causes of fire, heat, cold, gravity and levity ; since we have investigated the natures of solids and fluids ; since we have discovered the
causes

causes and nature of fermentation and putrefaction, as also the effects, whether natural or artificial, produced by various salts and sulphurs ; since all these important discoveries have been made, we can clearly account for the power of the air in changing the motions of our fluids, either for the better or the worse, and for the generation of material or immediate morbid causes. In consequence of these discoveries, the virtues and efficacies of medicines are also far better known than they formerly were.

“ Since the stated laws of motion have been ascertained and demonstrated, by statical, mechanical, and hydraulic experiments, we better know whence

proceed the moving forces of the muscles, the elastic power of the heart and fibres, their strength, their want of tone, their spasmodic constrictions, their pressure or impetus upon the fluids ; as also the wonderful and surprizing effects produced by the inequalities of the circulation of the blood.”

These discoveries and improvements confirm the advantage of each succeeding generation, and prove physical knowledge to be at a greater height than ever ; for as our ancestors, through love of honest fame, or the good of society, communicated not only what they knew, but their doubts and probable conjectures ; so has this age been enabled to collect

lect and glean their knowledge—and I will be bold to say, that amongst the present professors, in the different branches, it will be easy to point out *Sydenhams, Freinds, Meads—Harveys, Winslows, Ruyschs—Boerhaaves, &c.* who to their judgments have added every modern improvement, and as much excel those famous men, as they out-rivalled their predecessors.

Yet there still remains to be known, sufficient ever to engage our attention; to convince us, that “ what we know
“ is no more, in comparison of what
“ may be known, than an atom to the
“ infinite expanse ;” and the utmost height to which mortal wisdom can arrive--will be to explore the cloud of
ignorance,

ignorance, and just to gain a view of the boundless tract we have to run, to the goal of PERFECT KNOWLEDGE, situate only — — IN ETERNITY.

F I N I S.

